

[DOCUMENT 12 — 1956.]



ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
FIRE DEPARTMENT
FOR THE YEAR 1955.

Boston, February 1, 1956.

HON. JOHN B. HYNES,
Mayor of Boston.

DEAR SIR:

I have the honor to submit herewith a concise report of the activities of the Boston Fire Department for the year ending December 31, 1955.

Respectfully submitted,

FRANCIS X. COTTER,
Fire Commissioner.

HISTORY

FIRE COMMISSIONERS

*1874-1876. Alfred P. Rockwell.
 1877-1879. David Chamberlain.
 1879-1883. John E. Fitzgerald.
 1883-1885. Henry W. Longley.
 1885-1886. John E. Fitzgerald.
 1886-1895. Robert G. Fitch.
 1895-1905. Henry S. Russell.
 1905. Patrick J. Kennedy.
 (Acting February 17-March 20.)
 1905-1908. Benjamin W. Wells.
 1908-1910. Samuel D. Parker.
 1910. Francis M. Carroll.
 (Acting May 27-September 16.)
 1910-1912. Charles C. Daly.
 1912-1914. Charles H. Cole.
 1914-1919. John Grady.
 1919-1921. John R. Murphy.
 1921-1922. Joseph P. Manning.
 (Acting Nov. 8, 1921-April 1, 1922.)
 1922. William J. Casey.
 (Acting April 1-August 24.)
 1922-1925. Theodore A. Glynn.
 1926. Thomas F. Sullivan.
 (Acting January 26-July 6.)
 1926-1930. Eugene C. Hultman.
 1930-1933. Edward F. McLaughlin.
 1933. Eugene M. McSweeney.
 (October 16, 1933-January 5, 1934.)
 1934-1938. Edward F. McLaughlin.
 1938-1945. William Arthur Reilly.
 1945-1946. John I. Fitzgerald.
 (June 7, 1945-January 7, 1946.)
 1946-1950. Russell S. Codman, Jr.
 1950-1953. Michael T. Kelleher.
 1953-1954. John F. Cotter.
 1954- Francis X. Cotter.

CHIEFS OF DEPARTMENT

1826-1828. Samuel D. Harris.
 1829-1835. Thomas C. Amory.
 1836-1853. William Barnicoat.
 1854-1855. Elisha Smith, Jr.
 1856-1865. George W. Bird.
 1866-1874. John S. Damrell.
 1874-1884. William A. Green.
 1884-1901. Louis P. Webber.
 1901-1906. William T. Cheswell.
 1906-1914. John A. Mullen.
 1914. John Grady. (1 day.)
 1914-1919. Peter F. McDonough.
 1919-1922. Peter E. Walsh.
 1922-1924. John O. Taber.
 1925-1930. Daniel F. Sennott.
 1930-1936. Henry A. Fox.
 1936-1946. Samuel J. Pope.
 1946-1948. Napeen Boutillier.
 1948-1950. John F. McDonough.
 1950- John V. Stapleton.

* Previous to 1874, the Boston Fire Department was in charge of the Chief Engineer.

SPECIAL COMMENTS

In 1955 the greatest attention was given to activities that were aimed at preventing fires. For some years the Fire Marshal Plan was in effect in Boston. This plan involved the use of two lieutenants to lecture to sixth-grade pupils in public and private schools and had for its end the elimination of fire hazards in the home. In 1955 four visits were made to each school and the lectures were given to 13,000 children.

In-service inspections began in 1954, were continued in 1955. Elaboration was made on this procedure. Not only were full-scale dwelling inspections made to point out visible hazards and to eliminate or minimize them, but the firefighters informed the householders of possible hazards. They stressed to the occupant the proper use and care of oil burners. The householders were warned against the overloading of circuits and the danger of using badly defective appliances and fixtures. Stress was placed on the occasion of fire that came from smoking in bed and the careless disposal of cigarette butts and smoking materials. Parents of small children were reminded of the dangers of leaving small children and babies unattended. There were 35,000 inspections of dwelling units.

While inspecting, fire companies responded to thirty-three (33) box alarms and twelve (12) still alarms for resuscitator and emergency cases. In no instance was there any unreasonable delay in responding because of the apparatus being out of quarters.

During the inspection, the members of Ladder Company 3 discovered and removed the doors from thirty-two (32) abandoned ice boxes and refrigerators which had been left by former tenants of buildings in the so-called "New York Streets" area of the South End. This action was in accordance with the recently enacted law designed to prevent loss of life to young children who may be trapped within such refrigerators.

As in the previous years, our inspectors were received with courtesy by homemakers and occupants, who apparently were glad of the opportunity of having their homes inspected by firefighters. There were six instances of record where permission to enter and inspect was refused. This is the same number as recorded last year. In the light of the great number of inspections made and the fact that a great number of persons were

undoubtedly fire-conscious, such refusals did not reflect the attitude of the average householder nor did they detract from the program or offer any valid reason why the program should not be continued with increased vigor in coming years.

The Public Relations activity is geared to the fire prevention program and its aim is to stimulate the people to eliminate causes of fire and to make them conscious of potential hazards.

A summary of Public Relations activities is listed below:

1. A review of happenings within the Fire Department for the preceding 24-hour period is given daily by Jack Chase, over WBZ-TV, at 7.55 A.M. Pictures taken of these happenings are shown at these broadcasts. A short but forceful fire prevention message is given at the end of each summary. On radio, over WBZ and WBZA, a similar report is given five times during the day and evening by members of the radio staff. On-the-spot coverage is given by the Public Relations Officer at all major fires occurring within the city.

2. "Emergencies Don't Wait Week" was observed this year, October 8 to 15. For the second successive year, the Johnson & Johnson Company award was presented to Boston's outstanding firefighter. This year's recipient was Firefighter Harry Bryant, of Ladder Company 22, who received a huge bronze trophy, suitably inscribed, for his outstanding act of heroism.

3. "Fire Prevention Week" was observed October 9 to 15. Activities for this all-important week started with a huge parade through the downtown streets of Boston ending with a demonstration of skill and daring by our Dandy Drillers on the Boston Common. More than 35,000 spectators witnessed the parade and drill. A résumé of activities for the week follows:

(a) Radio, television, and newspaper items calling the seriousness of fire prevention to the attention of the public.

(b) Public Relations worked with WBZ-TV in promoting a fire prevention contest over their network.

(c) Several live telecasts arranged using Boston Fire Department personnel.

(d) Interviews of Assistant Chiefs Collins, Montgomery, and Driscoll arranged with WBZ staff members.

(e) Interview of Commissioner Cotter, by Nelson Bragg, on "Swan Boat," over WBZ-TV.

(f) Posters carrying fire prevention message on 360 taxicabs.

(g) Public demonstrations by our drill team and fireboat at Boston Navy Yard. Other drills were conducted during the week at Copley square, Tremont and West streets, and Summer and Washington streets.

(h) Presentation of movies and talks in Boston's elementary schools, convalescent homes, and hospitals.

4. For the first time, this department entered a fire prevention contest sponsored by the National Fire Protection Association among fire departments throughout the world to determine the best Fire Prevention Week program. For our efforts, we received honorable mention by placing third among cities of comparable size.

5. In June, Public Relations worked with members of the Boston Board of Fire Underwriters in carrying out its annual junior firefighter jamboree at the Hatch Shell. At this affair, awards were presented to junior firefighters by Commissioner Cotter and Assistant Fire Chief Edward N. Montgomery. The Fire Department band furnished musical selections throughout the evening. Pictures of the affair were shown in local papers and on TV.

During the Mayor's "Paint-Up, Fix-Up, Clean-Up Week" Public Relations again rendered invaluable assistance in carrying out a very successful campaign by distributing posters, issuing news releases, and by radio and TV spot announcements.

This year marked the introduction of a training program for officers in the department. Courses in new firefighting techniques were conducted over a two-week period with each class attending both morning and afternoon sessions. The press, radio, and television were on hand to record this event.

Throughout the year, Public Relations has handled numerous requests for fire prevention talks and the showing of movies to various groups, such as Kiwanis, Rotary, American Legion, Knights of Columbus, and other fraternal groups as well as auxiliary and out-of-town fire departments.

Again, as in the past two years, WBZ-TV put together a film showing some of Boston's outstanding fires during the year. . . . A lesson on fire prevention was incorporated in this picture, and it is hoped it will bring out a reduction in the number of fires. "Official File" is the title of the film, and Fire Commissioner Cotter narrates the closing message.

The Fire Prevention Division after examining many devices has approved a safety device for range oil burners which will be required hereafter on new installations and will bring about a continuous reduction of fires from this cause. The adoption of this device has spread to other parts of the country.

We feel that the emphasis on fire prevention has contributed to the reduction in the fire loss and especially, since the number of building fires has decreased from 3,695 in 1954 to 2,780 in 1955, strikingly so when one considers that much of this reduction is in one-, two-, and three-family dwellings, even though the number of alarms reached a new high.

Hydrant inspection program was inaugurated in October, 1955. Each engine and ladder company, with the exception of those located in the heavily-trafficked mercantile and market districts, inspected the post, Lowry and high pressure hydrants installed in their respective subdistricts on a twice-weekly schedule. Companies located downtown where it would not be practicable to have fire apparatus tying up traffic, performed the inspection on Sundays. The program was continued until it was deemed unsafe to keep apparatus on the street for protracted periods and subject it to the possibility of freezing the pumps, the tanks, or piping when the weather was extremely cold.

During the inspection period, 10,816 hydrants were inspected. In every instance where defects which would interfere with the operation of the hydrant were discovered or where water was found in the barrel, it was reported by radio to the fire alarm office, which in turn notified the Water Department by telephone. A weekly report of such defects was forwarded to the Water Department by the chief of department.

One thousand one hundred and six initial reinspections were made to ascertain whether or not the most serious defects had been corrected, and 567 secondary inspections were made where water had failed to drain from the barrel on the initial reinspection.

Training was made a principal endeavor in 1955. To obtain a high degree of efficiency and with full realization of the practical aspects confronting the department, new methods were thoroughly analyzed, and new equipment tested and evaluated. As required by the new operational techniques of the Boston Fire Department, and as necessary, apparatus and equipment was designed to make it possible for the department to procure equipment and apparatus which would meet with the detailed specifications and needs of the service. The development of a training program demonstrated the need for the coordination of the procurement, maintenance, and operational functions of the Fire Department. At the close of the year the liaison of these functions was better defined, which substantially added to the over-all operating efficiency of the department as a whole. A summary of these efforts follows:

I. TRAINING PROGRAM

Curriculum — The cold weather phase embraced the period from January 1, 1955, to February 7, 1955.

1. Company Drills — Rescue Equipment — Squad and Ladder Companies.

2. Nozzle Instruction and Inspection — All companies furnished with SOS, Wornall, and JN-200 type nozzles.

3. O.C.D. Type Pump Instruction — All companies with this type of apparatus housed in their quarters.

4. Single Unit Operation — Review and appraisal of all single unit engine companies in service.

5. Officers Training and Instruction Course — For the edification and instruction of all officers below the rank of district chief.

The temperate weather phase embraced the period from February 8, 1955, to December 12, 1955.

1. Fire School:

- | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| (a) Single Unit Procedure | (f) Nozzle Instruction |
| (b) Ladder Pipe Procedure | (g) Pump Instruction |
| (c) Tower Company Procedure | (h) Pump Testing |
| (d) Foam Generator Procedure | (i) Officer Training Course |
| (e) Fire Extinguishment | (j) Gas Mask Procedure |

2. Indoctrination of District Chiefs in New Operational Procedures.

3. Metropolitan Transit Authority Rescue Procedure.

4. Instruction on Resuscitators.
5. Testing and Preventative Maintenance of Apparatus.
6. Individual Company Instruction.
7. Tests of New Equipment and Appliances.
8. Officers' Training and Instruction Course.
9. Single Unit Engine Operation by Company.
10. Ladder Pipe Operation.
11. Engine Squad Unit Training.
12. Probationers' Training School.

II. TRAINING

1. *Company Drills*—With the advent of severe weather, outside instruction was curtailed and emphasis was directed to the drilling of companies in quarters. Special attention was focused upon the equipment of engine squad companies and ladder companies and intensified instruction furnished in the use of the various tools and appliances carried.

2. All companies furnished with the Elkhart, SOS, JN-200, and Wornall nozzles were visited by instructors from the Training Division who reviewed the use of the nozzle, instructed company personnel in proper techniques of use, and inspected as to condition of nozzles.

3. The various companies in the quarters at which O.C.D. pumpers were housed were given pump instruction on this type of equipment. Instruction was scheduled to reach all company personnel, and covered all the practical aspects of pumping, including drafting, relief valve operation, supplying first attack lines, supplying large size hand lines, supplying heavy stream appliances, limitations of pump, motor speed, and source of supply.

4. Single Unit Operation was reviewed in many of the companies so operating errors in procedure were corrected, complete availability of the potential pointed out and the necessity for the use of good judgment in its use stressed. The equipment layout of this type of company, due to the difference in appliances, is not necessarily standard, although every effort is made to standardize as much as conditions permit. For this reason, inspections and surveys of the company were made to maintain them as nearly standard as possible.

5. Officers' Training and Instruction Course—A two-week course of instruction was set up for officers

below the rank of district fire chief. Speakers were selected on the basis of experience and knowledge and the subjects covered were as listed in the 1954 report. Many of the lectures were accompanied by visual aids, motion pictures, mock-ups, department forms, training division pamphlets, manufacturer's literature, exhibits, and any available device which would assist in bringing more clarity to the subject. Cooperatively, cities and towns outside of Boston were permitted a maximum of two officers per class to the training course. In 1955, ten classes were assembled with a total of 209 Boston Fire Department officers being instructed and 36 visiting officers.

III. TRAINING

1. *Fire School*—As the weather became more temperate, more of the activity of the Training Division was shifted to the Fire School, South Boston, and various engine and ladder companies of the department were ordered there for instruction and review on the various phases of departmental operation. Companies were directed to report a sufficient number of times so that all members received necessary instruction as their service warranted as follows:

(a) *Single Unit Procedure*—Single unit companies reported for a review of procedure and actual drilling in all phases of single unit operation, check of equipment carried, and any modifications or changes developed since the company last attended single unit training.

(b) *Ladder Pipe Procedure*—Ladder companies were instructed in ladder training procedure, coordinating it with the operation of a single unit company and members of ladder companies in single unit procedure.

(c) *Tower Company Procedure*—Simultaneously, members of ladder companies were instructed in Tower Operation, in the raising and lowering, the operation of the pipe, the placing of the tower, and the precautions to be taken.

(d) *Foam Generator Procedure*—All foam companies of the department were directed to report for instruction in the use of foam generators carried on their apparatus and its actual operation. All personnel operated the foam generators.

(e) *Nozzle Instruction* — All new nozzles of the department were gone over with the members of all companies present with stress being laid upon the proper use of the nozzle, precautions to be taken, mechanical items to note when inspecting, such as the possibility of damage if dropped on a hard surface, the flexibility of use, the discharge to be expected, and the pressures required. Nozzles covered were the Elkhart, SOS, JN-200, J-200, and Wornall. As a matter of interest, other types of department nozzles such as the Navy All-Purpose, and the Callahan Pipe were used to establish visual comparisons. The various cellar pipes in use in this department were demonstrated and actual water passed to better acquaint personnel in the use of those devices which are in frequent use.

(f) *Pump Instruction* — Other companies present, other than single unit companies, were instructed in all phases of pump instruction, covering drafting, supplying of hand lines, supplying of heavy stream appliances, including ladder pipes, booster line operation (1½ inches), method of determining pump capacity, stage of operation, value of relief valve, pump limitations, motor speed limitations, limitations of water carriers, residual pressure, reading of hydrants, the value of correct pump procedure, the difference in types of pumps, acceptance tests of pumps, etc.

(g) *Officers' Training Course* — This training activity continued into the warm weather, and as part of the schedule called for the actual witnessing of many of the newer methods and equipment in use under actual fire conditions, one day was devoted to this at the Fire School in each two-week course period.

(h) *Gas Mask Procedure* — Part of the time at the Fire School was given to the correct procedure in the use of the gas masks, the governing factors in the selection of the mask to be used, the precautions to be taken with each type, the actual donning and wearing into a fire or smoke condition and the proper disposal of spent canisters.

(i) *Fire Extinguishment* — To supplement the instruction on nozzles, various types of fires were prepared and the various types of nozzles used in extinguishment. Members of the department were

instructed in the correct approach, the value of fog for protection and extinguishment, the conversion of water to steam, the value of steam, the high absorption of heat, etc.

(j) *Pump Testing* — All pumpers being returned to service from the Maintenance Division were given a service inspection test at the Fire School and any defects were corrected before the return of the pumper to service.

1. As an integral part of the instruction being carried on at the Fire School, the district fire chiefs in the department attended during their tours of duty to witness the new procedures, new equipment, fire extinguishment, and pump procedure.

2. *Metropolitan Transit Authority Equipment — Rescue Procedure* — All ladder companies, engine squad companies, and rescue companies in the department stationed where they would be required to perform rescue work involving this type of utility equipment, reported to the various utility yards and locations for actual instruction in the procedures to be followed. The scope of instruction included all types of rolling stock owned by the M.T.A., exclusive of the bus type, the dangers of working on M.T.A. property, the precautions to be taken, the establishment of more positive liaison between the Fire Department and the M.T.A. As of the close of the year, a total of 43 demonstrations were given to members of the Boston Fire Department.

3. *Resuscitators* — All companies issued this type of equipment were subject to intensive drilling in its use. The engine squad companies and the ladder companies were each visited by Training Division instructors and drilled, reviewed, and advised as to the actual operation of the device. Every member of every company with this equipment was required to actually place it into operation. Allied with this type of equipment was an M.S.A. Pneolator donated to the City of Boston Fire Department by WBZ-TV and upon its issuance the entire personnel of Ladder Company 6 where it was installed was instructed under the supervision of the Training Division and the M.S.A. Company representative.

4. *Pump Testing and Preventative Maintenance of Apparatus* — It was discovered that although a certain amount of testing of pumps was engaged in, there was

actually no record which would give a pump test history of all the pumpers in the Boston Fire Department. Every pumper in the department was then ordered to report to the pump test pit at Headquarters and be put through a service pump test to determine its ability to discharge its rated capacity, the motor speed required to obtain it, its discharge volume in the capacity stage and in the pressure stage, and general condition of the unit itself, discharge gates, inlets, gauges, relief valves, and actuating levers. The unit was gone over completely by department mechanics and any defects noted corrected. A separate record was made and retained on every unit tested in order to have available a history of each pumper's ability. Attempts are being made to obtain the operating specifications of every pumper in the department or specifications for that type and classification in order that future testing results may be compared with the original requirements and data of the manufacturer. As an integral part of the preventive maintenance program, company officers and chauffeurs were required to call any deficiencies known to them to the attention of the Maintenance Division for corrective action. All aspects of motor vehicle upkeep were covered, such as ignition system, fuel system, steering system, running gear, tires, appointments, braking system, springs, lights, warning devices, etc. As the general appearance warranted, company designations and finishes were renewed.

5. *Individual Company Instruction* — Companies which were not directed to report to the Fire School were visited by instructors and drilled in their specific procedures in sections where such was required. Cases in point were the ordering of all companies located in District 11 to the Edison substation, and the ordering of specific companies to Housing Authority Projects furnished with elevators in order that rescue procedure could be taken that would permit maximum results with a minimum of delay and property damage.

6. *Officers' Training and Instruction Course* — This type of instruction was continued with the curriculum the same as previously indicated and scheduled to reach as many officers as possible before the arrival of hot weather.

7. *Single Unit Engine Operation* — Effective April 12, 1955, the training of engine companies in single unit operation reopened with an entire company being

withdrawn from service in the daytime period for indoctrination of this type procedure. Fundamentally, the syllabus was the same as the previous year and covered theory and use, nozzles, pumping procedure, deck gun and cellar pipe procedure, teamwork, practical applications, and running of lines. More emphasis was given to the method of getting big lines (2½-inch size) into operation from this type of engine company, and greater stress was laid on the adaptability of it to meet any situation, as well as the necessity of practical judgment in the selection of lines. Many of the problems were discussed and the practical solution pointed out. The following companies were trained as units in single unit procedure: Engine Companies 1, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 10, 13, 22, 25, 26, 33, 36, 39, 40, 41, 50.

All engine companies in the department were completed as of August 25, 1955, and personnel of ladder companies and other types of units were scheduled to attend this type of training as well as engine company personnel who had failed to attend with their companies. In this category, ten classes of 30 men each attended a course of five days' duration. On October 25, 1955, it was decided to concentrate the course and send two classes per week of 20 men each. A total of 18 classes was directed to attend this course before severe weather forced the cancellation of this program. Total personnel attending over and above engine companies was approximately 650. It was necessary due to the number of men in classes to utilize the services of two pumping units in this phase of single unit training. Training at the Fire School was discontinued because of weather on December 19, 1955.

8. *Ladder Pipe Operation* — Under date of April 8, 1955, the installation of ladder pipe brackets on the following ladder trucks was completed as well as the indoctrination of the complete company in the use of same: Ladder Company's 7, 14, 16, 19, 20, 21, 27, 28, 30.

Training was carried out at the Fire School with the actual use of equipment and the passing of water. Operations were governed by the operational pamphlet previously issued to members of the department.

9. *Engine Squad Units* — Training of this type of unit continued with all phases being covered. New equipment and new methods which would make the engine squad unit capable of coping with the many and varied types of operation which might be expected of

it continued. Upon the issuance of new equipment an intensive training program was instituted in this type company to make certain that all members would acquire the necessary skill and knowledge needed to use it. Upon the acquisition of this necessary skill to a degree which would satisfy the training officer, the equipment would then be placed in service. Among the items on which training was required were the Skil-circular saw, Skil-chain saw, Porter-Ferguson tools, refrigerator kits, oxyacetylene cutting outfits, O'Brien rotary cutters, Robbins tourniquets, explosimeters, resuscitators, and breathing devices.

IV. TRAINING

Firefighters on Probation.—With a view towards maintaining positive control over the training of firefighters on probation during their entire probationary period with the appointment of the first class on April 28, 1955, a course of instruction was set up which would indoctrinate all new appointees in the fundamentals of firefighting, and supplement it by furnishing additional instruction after a period of actual assignment to a firefighting company. The fundamentals furnished consisted of a 15-day period at the Brighton drill yard and the Fire School, South Boston, where a good cross section of this department's activities could be demonstrated. Subsequently, each class of appointees was lectured on engine squad equipment and ordered to the Fire Alarm Office and to the fireboat so that their knowledge of the entire department would be broadened. Upon their completion of drill school, at the mid-probationary, each candidate was given an examination in the subjects taught, with each examination being more advanced than the prior one. A careful evaluation was made of each candidate upon the completion of drill school. After assignment and operation with his company, a confidential monthly report as to his work was required from the officers under whom he directly worked. All firefighters on probation were required to substantiate their possession of a chauffeur's license, and those men with possible visual deficiencies were given further eye examination to assure that a visual lack would not handicap the man's usefulness in the future or prevent his acting in the capacity of a driver if required. Upon the completion of all in-

struction, the successful passing of all examinations, the meeting of all drillmaster's requirements, satisfying the company officer's evaluation and measuring up over-all to the requirements of the Training Division, the commissioner was informed and recommendations furnished to appoint the candidate a permanent member of the Boston Fire Department. Five classes were appointed to the Boston Fire Department in 1955 with the total number appointed totaling 80 men.

Department Drill Team.—As an inherent part of Fire Prevention Week, a drill team consisting of 22 men was organized to give exhibition and demonstrations of department ladder work at various public locations during the week. The entire training of this unit was under the jurisdiction of the Training Division.

Recapitulation and Tabulation.—The following publications were formulated for the information and guidance of the department:

- (a) Skil-Circular Saw.
- (b) Pak-Kut Dry Acetylene Cutting Outfit.
- (c) The Firefighter and Electrical Equipment.
- (d) Instruction of M.T.A. to Emergency Crews.
- (e) M.T.A. Streetcar Accident Procedure.
- (f) Explosimeter Procedure.
- (g) Specifications — 100-Foot Aerial Truck.*
- (h) Specifications — Mack Squad Conversions.*
- (i) Specifications — 1½-Inch, 2½-Inch, and 3-Inch Hose.*

Training Division personnel furnished instruction in the following various functions:

(a)	Number of companies trained as single units . . .	17
(b)	Companies trained: Engines 1, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 10, 13, 22, 25, 26, 33, 36, 39, 40, 41, 50	
(c)	Department personnel, exclusive of men trained with companies receiving instruction in single unit	650
(d)	Ladder pipe drills (10 companies) . . .	45
(e)	Tower drills (10 companies) . . .	45
(f)	Nozzle instruction, SOS, Womall, JN200, J200 (exclusive of company drills in quarters) . . .	†71
(g)	Pump instruction, exclusive of single unit training . . .	†52
(h)	Elevator accident instruction, number of companies . . .	10
(i)	Number of classes, Officers Training . . .	10

* Collaborating with Fire Fighting Force.

† Number of Drills.

(j) Total officers attending training course:			
Boston	209	Cambridge	11
Newton	2	Chelsea	8
Belmont	6	Braintree	1
Weymouth	3	Winthrop	4
Navy Yard	1		
(k) Instruction in foam operation — companies			
			14
(l) Total drills in M.T.A. rescue procedure			
			43
(m) Total companies trained in rescue procedure			
			4
(n) Number of drill classes for probationers			
			5
(o) Total number of men attending drill classes			
			80
(p) Total number of pumpers tested — In-service			
			48
		Reserve	18
(q) Total number of units checked for defects as part of preventative maintenance program:			
Pumpers			56
Wagons			26
			82
(r) Edison substation training, Brighton — companies			
			5

Conversion of Engine Squad Units — Upon the basis of experience and requirements of a company which could assume a secondary function as a rescue unit without losing its necessity as an engine company, work was commenced early in 1955 to design a body for installing on the Mack, Model 85, wagon. Plans were formulated to establish specifications in conjunction therewith so that the finished product would meet the many requirements of a dual-purpose company, and five units were earmarked for this conversion.

Award of the contract to A. F. Robinson Fire Apparatus Company of Cambridge was made and the first unit was delivered to them for the commencement of the conversion. Close scrutiny of the progress of this conversion was maintained at all times, since in the process of development of the prototype every effort was to be made to eliminate or make modifications on those items which appeared necessary or which had been unforeseeable when the original plans and specifications were drawn up. Additionally, frequent inspections made it possible to assure that materials and workmanship were in keeping with the best recognized standards and methods. Cooperation of the contractor has been excellent in these matters.

As the manufacturer progressed in this development of the prototype, a second unit was received, then a third, a fourth, with the last unit readied for delivery at the beginning of 1956.

The prototype was received on November 7, 1955, and inspected and thoroughly tested against its requirements. All items needing attention were ticketed for further attention by the fabricator if within the purview of his contract requirements and all items for which the department was responsible were corrected, such as motor tune-up, braking system, ignition system, lubrication and tires.

The first unit had not been finally and officially accepted by the Boston Fire Department as of December 31, 1955, as some items were still in need of attention, however the finished product satisfies the requirements of the specifications amply and will be a unit capable of meeting the demands of its dual-purpose role without losing or surrendering anything.

It is anticipated that with the acceptance of the initial unit, the conversion and delivery of the remaining four units will be in early 1956.

As a part of this project, the stations of all the present squad companies were surveyed to make certain that these units when assigned would be capable of being quartered. In each and every case, facilities were adequate to house the newly-designed units.

Purchase of 100-Foot Ladder Trucks — Upon the basis of operational experience, research, manufacturer's information, recognized authorities, plans, and specifications were originated for the purchase of 100-foot aerial ladder trucks. On May 5, 1955, specifications were completed which detailed the requirements for a ladder truck of this type. Upon its approval, the necessary purchasing procedure was instituted for the procurement of two (2) units of fire apparatus of this type. The award of the contract was to the Seagrave Corporation and action was immediately taken to meet with the representatives and engineers of the Seagrave Corporation to discuss the specifications and plans with the purpose of clarifying items which might be misinterpreted.

Various conferences and meetings with the Seagrave Corporation representative have been had to determine the requirements in the matter of equipment being furnished, paint shade to be used, arrangement of compartments, and the multitude of problems which arise.

Upon the basis of the contract specification, blueprinting and shop specifications were made by the manufacturer. Procurement of equipment and coordination of all the phases necessary to commence actual fabrication

tion were instituted by the manufacturer and occupied the remainder of the year 1955. It is anticipated that actual fabrication of the two new units will commence in the early part of 1956.

As a collateral part of various conventions and meetings held in various parts of the country, the officer in charge of the Training Division had opportunity to view the product of this manufacturer similar to that called for in the specifications and the consensus of opinion after seeing same is that this type unit will be an efficient and practical piece of apparatus of great value to the department.

Elevator Rescue Procedure — As a result of damage to Housing Project elevators in those cases where the department responded to release persons trapped in stalled elevators, the Fire Commissioner directed a careful survey of the situation with a view towards establishing a definite procedure to effect the rescue of persons in this situation without unnecessarily damaging housing project property.

The result of this survey revealed the need for positive instruction in operations of this kind, and a procedure was established to be followed, if at all possible. All companies in areas exposed to this type of operation were scheduled for instruction, and all instruction furnished under the guidance of an officer of the Training Division, with the cooperation of a representative from the elevator company responsible for the upkeep of this type of equipment. To supplement future instruction of this type, a series of photographs of the procedure were taken for future use. A secondary result of the survey indicated that the Boston Housing Authority had no positive way of communicating with the elevator company when their assistance was needed, and as the need was evident, a positive system of notification between the Housing Authority and the elevator company was established without any lessening of the department's procedural rights in incidents where life was endangered.

As of the close of the year, the schedule of instruction for the various companies continued, so that every man in each company liable for this type of response was familiar with the problem to be encountered and the remedial action required.

Incidental to the establishment of this course of action, it was learned that many of the roofs of the

Housing Authority buildings were improperly safeguarded. This matter was brought to their attention, and they are cooperating to install safeguards wherever required.

Life Net Survey — A survey of the rope life nets in use in the department was directed by the Fire Commissioner, and it revealed that many of the nets currently carried were between 25 and 35 years of age, that many of them were unsafe and should be withdrawn from service, and new ones purchased.

As of the close of the year, none had yet been delivered, but delivery will commence in early 1956.

Electrical Survey — A survey of the electrical requirements of the portable generating apparatus was instituted to determine future requirements of the department, and to ascertain whether the installations as currently arranged were in keeping with best accepted practices of the wiring code. The results of this survey indicated that the installations were deficient and required complete rearrangement to make them conform with sound wiring practices, and the necessary recommendations were made to accomplish this.

The necessity of the survey became apparent when it developed that a great deal of difficulty was being encountered by units calling upon the Lighting Plants for electrical current and that equipment was not being properly grounded and was being overloaded with resulting shorting of circuits and the delaying of operations. All deficiencies were corrected.

In 1955 the following promotions were made:

To Assistant Fire Chief	5
To Deputy Fire Chief	1
To District Fire Chief	5
To Fire Captain	16
To Fire Lieutenant	19

79 were appointed to serve as firefighters.

In Memoriam

Deaths of Active Members During 1955

Date	Name	Rank	Company
July 5.....	Robert J. Quinn.....	Fire Fighter....	Engine Squad 18.
August 22.....	Neil C. Penny.....	Fire Captain....	Engine Company 51.
October 6.....	Robert M. Walsh.....	Fire Fighter....	Engine Company 21.
October 6.....	Edwin I. Clarke.....	Engineer, High Pressure.....	High Pressure.
November 7.....	John A. Gust.....	Fire Fighter....	Ladder Company 3.

PERSONNEL

**BOSTON FIRE DEPARTMENT
1955**

Fire Commissioner, FRANCIS X. COTTER.

Chief of Department, JOHN V. STAPLETON.

Executive Secretary, WILLIAM D. SLATTERY.

Medical Examiner, EDWARD H. HOMMEL, M.D.

Superintendent of Fire Alarm Division, ALBERT L. O'BANION.

Superintendent of Maintenance Division, JOHN A. MARTIN.

Assistant Fire Chief in Charge of Fire Prevention Division, EDWARD N. MONTGOMERY.

Assistant Fire Chief in Charge of Fire Fighting Force, PATRICK E. COLLINS.

Assistant Fire Chief in Charge of Personnel and Training, LEO C. DRISCOLL.

Chaplains, RT. REV. MSGR. HENRY J. O'CONNELL (Catholic), REV. JOHN E. BARCLAY (Protestant), RABBI SAMUEL I. KORFF (Jewish).

**MEDAL OF HONOR MEN
BOSTON FIRE DEPARTMENT — 1955**

"Walter Scott Medal for Valor."

Awarded to Fire Fighter HARRY E. BRYANT, Ladder Company 22.

"Patrick J. Kennedy Medal."

Awarded to Fire Fighter JOSEPH F. HOAR, Ladder Company 4.

ROLL OF MERIT — 1955

Fire Lieutenant ANDREW J. CANNING, Engine Company 46.

Fire Fighter JOHN C. MURPHY, Ladder Company 14.

APPOINTMENTS — 1955 (Firefighting Division)

DATE	NAME	ASSIGNMENT
April 27	George W. Ray, Jr.	Ladder Company 27
April 27	Robert L. Hennessey	Ladder Company 8
April 27	James F. Walsh	Ladder Company 26
April 27	Joseph T. Earner	Engine Company 8
April 27	John J. Trementozzi	Engine Company 16
April 27	Richard W. Lynch	Engine Company 13
April 27	Thomas M. O'Toole	Engine Company 31
April 27	Gerald R. LaFlame	Engine Company 16
April 27	Francis C. Hession	Ladder Company 13
April 27	Timothy J. McGowan	Ladder Company 8
April 27	John J. Geswell	Ladder Company 33
April 27	George F. McCafferty	Engine Company 40
April 27	Thomas Slattery	Engine Company 36
April 27	Carmen A. Campanaro	Engine Company 56
April 27	John G. Thompson	Engine Company 9
April 27	William H. H. Tripp	Ladder Company 22
April 27	Edward F. McMillan	Engine Company 36
April 27	Joseph M. Martin	Engine Squad 34
April 27	Frank J. Murano	Engine Company 50
April 27	Richard A. Ferrari	Engine Company 56
April 27	Nicholas F. Lepore	Engine Company 40
April 27	Francis T. McAlpine	Engine Company 50
April 27	John C. Ahern	Engine Company 47
April 27	William P. Powers	Ladder Company 2
April 27	John F. O'Faherty	Engine Company 9
July 6	Thomas G. Slyman	Engine Company 50
July 6	John J. Donovan	Engine Squad 18
July 6	Joseph M. Crawford	Engine Company 56
July 6	Peter W. Judge	Engine Company 40
July 6	John J. Sheedy	Engine Company 28
July 6	Arthur D. Howell	Engine Company 27
July 6	Bernard F. Woods	Engine Company 41
July 6	John P. Fallon	Engine Company 27
July 6	Thomas F. Goodwin	Engine Squad 18
July 6	Joseph L. Pistorino	Ladder Company 26
July 6	William J. O'Brien	Ladder Company 15
July 6	George V. Rull	Ladder Company 24
July 6	Robert M. Sweeney	Ladder Company 9
July 6	Walter P. Sullivan	Engine Company 40
July 6	Joseph A. Reardon	Engine Company 5
Aug. 31	Arthur J. Howard	Engine Company 41
Aug. 31	Acacio J. Gazo	Ladder Company 10
Aug. 31	John G. Monteiro	Ladder Company 26
Aug. 31	Leo J. Souza	Engine Company 9
Aug. 31	Robert P. Sullivan	Engine Company 36
Aug. 31	Frank J. Marcella	Engine Company 27
Aug. 31	Joseph A. Dantona	Engine Company 40
Aug. 31	John J. Handren	Engine Company 29
Aug. 31	Arthur M. Turk	Engine Company 42
Aug. 31	James R. Munzert	Ladder Company 15
Aug. 31	Paul J. Lambrecht	Engine Company 27
Oct. 19	Frank J. Gemellaro	Ladder Company 3
Oct. 19	Robert J. Leonard	Ladder Company 24
Oct. 19	William D. Shea	Ladder Company 11
Oct. 19	Henry V. Jundzil	Ladder Company 11
Oct. 19	George J. Holland	Ladder Company 11

APPOINTMENTS — 1955, Continued.

DATE	NAME	ASSIGNMENT
Oct. 19	Edward L. Fitzpatrick	Ladder Company 21
Oct. 19	Robert E. Laing	Engine Company 22
Oct. 19	John P. Tynan	Engine Company 30
Oct. 19	Martin J. McDonough	Engine Company 33
Oct. 19	Robert R. Donovan	Engine Squad 34
Oct. 19	Joseph Boylan	Engine Company 4
Oct. 19	John T. Coreoran	Engine Company 37
Oct. 19	Alan W. Robinson	Ladder Company 26
Oct. 19	Stanley A. France	Ladder Company 18
Oct. 19	James F. Roy	Engine Company 31
Nov. 16	John J. Force	Engine Company 52
Nov. 16	Kenneth C. Bruynell	Engine Company 43
Nov. 16	Bartolomeo J. DeBenedetto	Engine Company 36
Nov. 16	Arthur E. Ruggere	Engine Company 41
Nov. 16	Frank Gambardello	Engine Company 33
Nov. 16	William J. Foley	Engine Company 33
Nov. 16	Anthony J. Orlando	Engine Company 45
Nov. 16	Daniel T. Gallagher	Engine Company 42
Nov. 16	Thomas Danilehuk	Engine Company 56
Nov. 16	Edward W. Greene	Engine Company 27
Nov. 16	Walter J. McEvoy	Engine Company 8
Nov. 16	Frank J. Piazza	Engine Company 12
Nov. 16	Eugene F. Tierney	Ladder Company 30

APPOINTMENTS — 1955 (Civilian Division)

DATE	NAME	ASSIGNMENT
Jan. 5	Marie T. McCann	Headquarters
Jan. 5	Charles Barranco	Maintenance Division
Jan. 19	Elaine V. Heeter	Fire Prevention Division
Feb. 9	Rosemarie R. Guinazzo	Fire Prevention Division
Feb. 9	Charles A. O'Dowd	Fire Alarm Division
April 20	Catherine Boodro	Headquarters
April 21	Mary Radziusz	Maintenance Division
April 27	Francis C. Keane	Fire Alarm Division
May 11	Francis J. Shea	Maintenance Division
May 25	Angelo M. Malvarosa	Maintenance Division
May 25	James P. Maney	Maintenance Division
June 8	Joan M. Fallon	Fire Prevention Division
June 15	Micheline Cataldo	Maintenance Division
June 22	Albert F. Marando	Fire Alarm Division
July 14	Mary E. White	Fire Prevention Division
Aug. 5	Regina A. Sullivan	Maintenance Division
Aug. 10	Rocco J. Cozza	Maintenance Division
Aug. 10	Ralph P. Selvitella	Maintenance Division
Sept. 14	Joseph F. Garrity	Maintenance Division
Sept. 14	Francis J. Wallace	Maintenance Division
Oct. 19	John P. Mahoney	Fire Alarm Division
Oct. 19	Daniel B. Shea	Fire Alarm Division

RETIREMENTS — 1955

DATE	NAME	RANK	COMPANY
Jan. 1	David F. Culhane	Fire Fighter	Engine Company 51
Jan. 1	Arthur E. Doyle	Fire Fighter	Engine Squad 53
Jan. 1	Johan G. W. Holmberg	Fire Lieutenant	Ladder Company 17
Jan. 1	Michael J. Sullivan	Fire Fighter	Ladder Company 26
Jan. 5	William J. Mahoney	District Fire Chief	District 11
Jan. 5	Henry P. Doherty	Fire Fighter	Ladder Company 33
Jan. 5	James M. Collins	Fire Fighter	Headquarters
Jan. 5	James W. McQuiside	Aide to Medical Examiner	Headquarters
Jan. 19	William A. Moore	Fire Fighter	Lighting Plant 1
Jan. 19	Hilary J. O'Connell	Fire Fighter	Engine Company 40
Jan. 19	John J. Butler	Engineer	High Pressure
Jan. 26	Robert J. Ritchie	Fire Captain	Engine Company 42
Jan. 26	John F. Doherty	Fire Lieutenant	Ladder Company 18
Jan. 31	Annie E. Gavin	Janitress	Headquarters
Feb. 1	Frederick W. Sullivan	Fire Lieutenant	Ladder Company 19
Feb. 1	Joseph M. Kenney	Fire Fighter	Ladder Company 30
Feb. 1	Thomas F. Prendergast	Engineer in Charge of Cardox System	Maintenance Division
Feb. 16	John J. Doyle	Fire Fighter	Engine Company 37
Feb. 16	David Burke	Fire Fighter	Engine Company 55
Feb. 23	Arthur J. Short	Apparatus Operator	Engine Company 13
Feb. 23	Allan R. McInnis	Fire Captain	Engine Company 20
Feb. 23	John F. Galvin	Fire Captain	Engine Company 30
Feb. 23	George T. Cunniff	Apparatus Operator	Engine Company 43
Feb. 23	John F. H. Fox	Fire Lieutenant	Fire Prevention Division
Feb. 23	John L. Morrison	Fire Fighter	Fire Prevention Division
Mar. 1	Hugh J. MacMackin	Fire Lieutenant	Engine Company 4
Mar. 1	George H. King	Engineer, Motor Squad	Maintenance Division
Mar. 1	Edward Behnke	Fire Fighter	Engine Company 42
Mar. 1	William F. Linnehan	Fire Lieutenant	Ladder Company 17
Mar. 2	Thomas F. Haley	Fire Lieutenant	Engine Company 43
Mar. 23	James F. White	District Fire Chief	District 3
Mar. 23	John C. O'Brien	Fire Lieutenant	Ladder Company 26
April 1	Thomas F. Hurley	Fire Fighter	Engine Company 4
April 1	Richard J. Dunn	Fire Fighter	Engine Squad 11
April 1	Thomas J. Flaherty	Fire Fighter	Engine Company 19
April 1	Walter F. McCourt	Fire Fighter	Engine Squad 34
April 1	Edmund S. Sharp	Fire Fighter	Engine Company 36
April 1	Norman F. Davidson	Fire Lieutenant	Engine Company 46
April 1	Joseph W. Thompson	Fire Lieutenant	Engine Company 48
April 1	James J. Kiley	Fire Lieutenant	Engine Company 54
April 1	David E. Lane	Fire Fighter	Ladder Company 2
April 1	Charles F. McCarthy	Fire Lieutenant	Ladder Company 22
April 1	Walter E. Crouch	Assistant Fire Chief	Ladder Company 22
April 1	Esther C. Hanrahan	(Temporary) Janitress	Headquarters
April 1	Joseph F. Lynch	Fire Fighter	Headquarters
April 1	Patriek J. Kenney	Steam Fireman	Fire Alarm Division
April 20	Patriek J. Mahoney	Fire Captain	Maintenance Division
April 20	Miles V. Murphy	District Fire Chief	Engine Company 1
April 20	Howard T. Chase	Fire Lieutenant	District 4
May 1	George M. Eaton	Fire Captain	Engine Company 48
May 1	Warren C. Somers	Fire Captain	Engine Company 16
May 1	William O. Abbondanzio	Fire Fighter	Engine Company 40
May 1			Ladder Company 11

RETIREMENTS — 1955, Continued.

DATE	NAME	RANK	COMPANY
May 1	Robert D. Doherty	Fire Fighter	Ladder Company 30
May 18	Thomas M. Manning	Fire Captain	Engine Company 28
May 18	William J. McCarthy	Fire Lieutenant	Engine Company 30
May 18	Clarence A. Knight	Fire Lieutenant	Engine Company 31
May 18	William H. McAndrew	Fire Lieutenant	Ladder Company 25
May 18	Franklin B. Sanborn	Deputy Fire Chief	Division 2
May 18	William J. Prendergast	Working Foreman	Division 2
June 1	William J. Donahue	Fire Lieutenant	Fire Alarm Division
June 1	Raymond D. Doucette	Fire Fighter	Engine Company 46
June 1	Leo S. Manning	Fire Fighter	Ladder Company 11
June 15	John J. Smith	Fire Captain	Rescue Company
June 15	Michael J. McLaughlin	Fire Captain	Engine Company 31
June 15	Alfred E. Smith	Fire Captain	Engine Company 50
June 22	James J. Galvin	Fire Fighter	Maintenance Division
June 22	Caesar Mikolajewski	Senior Fire Alarm Operator	Engine Company 3
July 1	John J. O'Connor	Fire Fighter	Fire Alarm Division
July 1	Giorgio A. Frattaroli	Fire Fighter	Engine Company 4
July 1	Leo J. Walker	Fire Fighter	Engine Company 5
July 1	John A. Abbott	Fire Fighter	Engine Company 13
July 1	John E. Mahoney	Fire Lieutenant	Engine Company 26
July 1	John E. Broughton	Fire Captain	Engine Company 24
July 20	James F. Welch	District Fire Chief	Ladder Company 2
July 20	James F. Marshall	Fire Fighter	District 9
Aug. 1	Frank L. Loring	Fire Fighter	Fire Prevention Division
Aug. 1	Joseph J. Falcione	Fire Fighter	Engine Company 20
Aug. 1	James J. Horgan	Fire Lieutenant	Engine Company 4
Aug. 1	John F. Good	Fire Lieutenant	Ladder Company 2
Aug. 1	John K. Hayes	Engineer, Motor Squad	Ladder Company 20
Aug. 1	Charles H. McCarthy	Fire Lieutenant	Maintenance Division
Aug. 3	Egbert R. Murphy	Fire Captain	Engine Company 31
Aug. 3	Frank J. Galvin	Fire Fighter	Engine Company 28
Aug. 3	Thomas B. Maguire	Fire Captain	Engine Company 46
Aug. 24	Joseph H. Dushner	Fire Captain	Engine Company 47
Aug. 24	Arthur D. Brownell	Fire Fighter	Engine Company 43
Sept. 1	David F. Heelen	Fire Fighter	Engine Company 48
Sept. 1	Olaf T. Svensen	Fire Fighter	Engine Company 4
Sept. 1	Cleveland W. DeRoche	Fire Fighter	Engine Company 17
Sept. 14	Arthur W. Lundgren	Fire Lieutenant	Engine Company 17
Sept. 21	John T. J. Cronin	Fire Captain	Ladder Company 10
Oct. 1	Robert V. Hurley	Fire Fighter	Ladder Company 18
Oct. 1	Charles N. Vogel	Fire Fighter	Engine Company 42
Oct. 5	George F. Frazier	Fire Fighter	Ladder Company 20
Oct. 5	William H. Guenther	Fire Fighter	Fire Prevention Division
Oct. 12	John J. Glynn	Fire Lieutenant	Headquarters
Oct. 19	William E. Stewart	Fire Fighter	Engine Company 53
Nov. 1	Alwin J. Thibeault	Fire Fighter	Engine Company 45
Nov. 1	Francis H. Baker	Fire Fighter	Engine Company 12
Nov. 1	Raymond B. LaCasse	Fire Captain	Ladder Company 4
Nov. 1	Joseph A. Hurley	Fire Captain	Ladder Company 11
Nov. 1	Albert McLaughlin	Fire Fighter	Fire Prevention Division
Nov. 30	Eugene F. O'Neil	Apparatus Operator	Fire Prevention Division
Dec. 1	Edward F. Leonard	Fire Fighter	Engine Company 28
Dec. 7	Peter J. Bradley	Fire Fighter	Engine Squad 14
Dec. 28	William F. Gilmore	Fire Fighter	Headquarters

RESIGNATIONS — 1955

DATE	NAME	RANK	COMPANY
Jan. 19	Paul A. Sawitzky	Fire Fighter	Engine Company 45
Feb. 15	Carmen DiLorenzo	Storekeeper	Maintenance Division
Mar. 22	Richard S. Doherty	Fire Fighter	Ladder Company 13
April 11	John J. Gorham	Junior Building Custodian	Maintenance Division
April 18	Francis X. Riley	Fire Apparatus Repairman	Maintenance Division
April 27	Philomene K. Sheehan	Clerk and Typist	Fire Prevention Division
July 14	Robert E. Powers	Fire Fighter	Engine Company 33
Aug. 11	John F. O'Faherty	Fire Fighter	Ladder Company 2
Aug. 12	Charles L. O'Reilly	Fire Fighter	Ladder Company 19
Sept. 7	Carl P. DeVasto	Lineman	Fire Alarm Division
Sept. 16	John J. Cunningham	Fire Fighter	Ladder Company 6
Nov. 2	Edward J. Sullivan	Fire Fighter	Ladder Company 20
Dec. 16	Andrew DeFrancesco	Fire Apparatus Repairman	Maintenance Division
Dec. 16	William L. Heigham	Fire Apparatus Repairman	Maintenance Division
Dec. 21	Raymond P. Owens	Fire Fighter	Engine Company 49
Dec. 27	Emily A. Randall	Clerk and Typist	Fire Prevention Division

STATISTICS

COMPARATIVE FIRE DEPARTMENT EXPENDITURES

	1954	1955
1. PERSONAL SERVICES		
Permanent employees	\$9,597,517 65	\$9,204,206 11
Overtime	178,284 61	169,776 11
Total Personal Services	\$9,775,802 26	\$9,373,982 22
2. CONTRACTUAL SERVICES		
Communications	\$33,847 24	\$33,919 02
Light, heat and power	70,106 37	69,149 33
Professional and technical services	3,213 65	—
Repairs and maintenance of buildings and structures	40,206 87	42,205 11
Repairs and servicing of equipment	32,479 35	46,349 58
Transportation of persons	740 80	1,790 21
Other contractual services	19,757 12	16,295 78
Total Contractual Services	\$200,351 40	\$203,709 03
3. SUPPLIES AND MATERIALS		
Automotive supplies and materials	\$82,132 68	\$88,759 05
Building supplies and materials	25,423 15	—
Heating supplies and materials	78,808 84	80,092 38
Household supplies and materials	8,180 13	17,185 91
Medical, dental and hospital supplies and materials	664 69	927 19
Office supplies and materials	18,267 47	18,836 55
Police, traffic control and firefighting supplies and materials	58,067 05	—
Public Works supplies and materials	47 78	—
Other supplies and materials	80,069 72	178,359 42
Total Supplies and Materials	\$351,661 51	\$384,160 50
4. CURRENT CHARGES AND OBLIGATIONS		
Dues and subscriptions	\$1,003 35	—
Bond and insurance premiums	1,880 90	—
Rents	5,954 97	—
Other current charges and obligations	10 00	\$6,388 00
Total Current Charges and Obligations	\$8,867 22	\$6,388 00
5. EQUIPMENT		
Automotive equipment	\$7,697 80	—
Electrical and mechanical machinery and equipment	6,037 72	—
Engineering and scientific equipment	1,965 86	—
Fire fighting equipment	79,905 61	—
Household furniture and equipment	77 68	—
Medical, dental and hospital equipment	3,381 61	—

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

	1954	1955
Office furniture and equipment	\$1,565 31	\$4,621 58
Signal equipment	48,618 39	—
Agriculture, park and recreation equipment	\$33 05	—
Library books	1,576 95	—
Motorless vehicles	12 12	—
Other equipment	680 89	73,798 20
Total Equipment	\$151,552 99	\$78,419 78
Department Total	\$10,488,235 38	\$10,052,659 53

FIRE DEPARTMENT REVENUE — 1955

Permits for storage of inflammable fluids, certificates of registration, etc.	\$79,332 00
Sale of badges	7 80
Miscellaneous receipts	9,757 99
Damage to apparatus and motor vehicles	2,124 55
Damage to fire alarm boxes	3,234 00
Suspense Account	41,935 20
Total	\$146,391 54

**FIRE ALARM DIVISION
1955**

FIRE ALARM DIVISION

GENERAL SUMMARY OF ALARMS

TOTAL NUMBER OF ALARMS TRANSMITTED
(To Which Apparatus Responded)

	1953	1954	1955
First alarms (boxes).....	9,090	8,748	9,983
Still alarms — NET TOTAL.....	7,409	6,310	7,441
Total alarms — Boston only.....	17,099	15,058	17,424
Mutual aid.....	105	92	101
TOTAL ALARMS.....	17,204	15,150	17,525

TELEPHONE ALARMS

	1953	1954	1955
Alarms received from citizens by telephone (for fire) ..	6,058	5,554	6,684
Per cent of total alarms.....	35.3	36.7	38.1

FALSE ALARMS

	1953	1954	1955
Total false alarms.....	2,474	2,154	2,451
Per cent of total alarms.....	14.4	14.2	14.0

NOTE:

The first electric telegraph fire alarm system in the world (in Boston) cost \$10,000 and consisted of 40 miles of wire, 45 signal boxes or stations, and 16 alarm bells.

The system was officially accepted by the city at noon, April 28, 1852, and the first alarm was received from Station 7, District 1 (now Box 1212), at 8.25 p.m., April 29, 1852.

Total box alarms transmitted since April 28, 1852, through December 31, 1955, 404,537.

ANALYSIS OF STILL ALARMS

	1953	1954	1955
Received from citizens by telephone.....	6,058	5,554	6,684
Received from Police Department.....	928	781	804
Received from Fire Department.....	1,430	1,249	1,423
Boxes received — treated as STILLS.....	23	11	22
Emergency calls — treated as STILLS.....	2,091	1,942	2,113
Received from Boston Automatic *.....	177	162	139
Received from A. D. T. *.....	138	140	188
Received from G. A. C. *.....	54	66	48
GROSS TOTALS.....	10,899	9,905	11,511
DEDUCT			
Still alarms received for which BOX ALARMS were pulled after and BOX ALARMS were transmitted....	122	84	107
Still alarms received for which BOX ALARMS were transmitted.....	3,368	3,511	3,963
NET TOTAL STILL ALARMS (Boston).....	7,409	6,310	7,441
MUTUAL AID ALARMS.....	105	92	101

* Does Not include alarms received after still alarm or after City Box Alarm, in which case no action was taken.

NOTE.—NET TOTAL STILL ALARMS indicates number of alarms for which apparatus was dispatched by telephone without BOX ALARM, and alarms for which Private Company box only was transmitted without City Box Alarm.

MULTIPLE ALARM FIRES

	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955
Two Alarms.....	44	44	44	46	71
Three Alarms.....	7	21	13	17	20
Four Alarms.....	1	2	6	2	5
Five Alarms.....	0	2	1	1	4
Totals.....	52	69	64	66	100

ANALYSIS OF ALARMS BY MONTHS

1935		January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Total
Alarms	Box.....	1,666	732	770	860	800	577	652	627	741	807	885	1,306	9,973
	Stills.....	965	492	610	723	687	489	558	610	502	539	508	803	7,576
	Totals.....	2,631	1,224	1,380	1,613	1,487	1,066	1,210	1,237	1,243	1,346	1,393	2,109	17,549
Alarms Received From	Members.....	.....	.....	1	1	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	4
	Police.....	4	1	3	2	2	1	2	1	.....	5	3	3	27
	Watchman.....	.....	.....	3	2	1	1	1	1	1	3	4	.....	17
	Automatic.....	2	6	2	3	3	2	3	4	3	3	9	5	45
	Unknown.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	Outside.....	450	220	196	225	213	146	183	147	187	207	178	335	2,687
	Totals.....	456	227	205	233	219	151	189	153	191	218	194	344	2,780

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

No Fires	False.....	158	122	113	170	179	107	176	177	212	314	309	288	2,415
	Accidental.....	48	42	31	28	29	29	23	34	26	23	29	86	428
	Rescue.....	213	210	248	233	219	237	271	364	264	288	252	416	3,245
	Needless Bell.....	82	68	60	62	56	27	45	47	58	55	63	95	718
	Needless Still.....	65	46	30	26	35	22	23	49	31	26	39	57	449
Rubbish and Grass Fires	Automobile fires.....	65	62	49	61	79	52	71	59	63	56	42	67	727
	Rubbish.....	185	89	129	226	292	177	150	127	196	164	129	187	2,012
	Dump.....	13	3	6	7	9	11	12	6	3	4	1	7	81
	Brush or grass.....	529	123	297	393	483	79	96	107	45	72	136	309	2,439
	Other outdoor.....	189	40	56	75	101	67	95	56	68	76	83	83	980
Building Fires With Loss	Building — no loss.....	19	147	119	81	76	52	47	52	79	98	124	187	1,081
	Marine.....	2	3	1	1	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	1	3	13
	Out of city calls.....	13	13	6	17	10	5	10	5	7	12	10	10	118
	Confined to room.....	306	158	130	150	136	98	135	111	131	104	152	230	1,991
	Confined to building.....	112	67	73	89	73	48	54	39	37	48	41	100	822
	Extended to others.....	8	2	2	3	10	4	1	3	3	6	1	14	57

**SUMMARY OF ALARMS
ACCORDING TO FIRE DISTRICTS—1955**

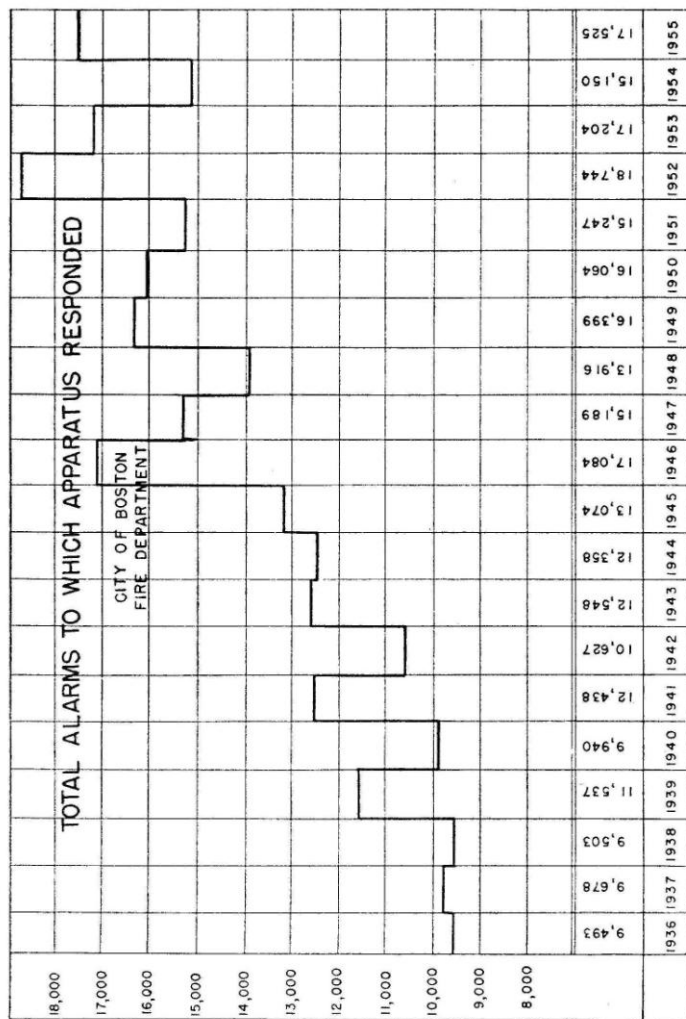
No.		Boxes	Stills	Total
1	East Boston	532	453	985
2	Charlestown	436	243	679
3	North and West Ends and Business District	748	454	1,202
4	Business District, South End and Back Bay	1,227	655	1,882
5	Back Bay and Roxbury	1,777	839	2,646
6	South Boston	792	535	1,327
7	Roxbury and Dorchester North	1,230	743	1,973
8	Dorchester	837	1,099	1,936
9	Jamaica Plain and Roxbury	989	726	1,715
10	Roslindale, West Roxbury, and Hyde Park	842	1,062	1,904
11	Brighton	573	602	1,175
Totals in Boston		9,983	7,441	17,424
Mutual Aid to Adjacent Cities and Towns		—	101	101
Totals		9,983	7,542	17,525

**SUMMARY OF MULTIPLE ALARM FIRES
ACCORDING TO MONTHS OF THE YEAR—1955**

Month	Two Alarms	Three Alarms	Four Alarms	Five Alarms	Totals
January	13	3	1	0	17
February	7	0	0	0	7
March	7	2	1	1	11
April	9	2	0	1	12
May	3	1	0	0	4
June	4	0	1	0	5
July	4	2	0	0	6
August	5	1	0	0	6
September	5	0	0	0	5
October	2	5	0	0	7
November	1	1	0	0	2
December	11	3	2	2	18
Totals	71	20	5	4	100

MUTUAL AID ALARMS

	Response of BOSTON to Outside Cities and Towns					Response of Adjacent Cities and Towns to BOSTON				
	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955
Brookline	12	10	23	24	27	92	108	91	108	120
Cambridge	8	10	10	3	14	0	2	7	1	6
Chelsea	11	11	12	8	5	4	4	4	9	13
Dedham	0	5	6	11	3	20	21	21	26	20
Everett	2	2	0	2	1	0	2	1	1	4
Malden	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Milton	8	8	6	8	4	0	3	1	1	4
Newton	1	4	8	5	8	16	19	16	17	22
Norwood	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Quincy	4	2	5	1	4	0	3	9	7	19
Revere	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Somerville	34	32	32	28	34	38	30	38	22	42
Winthrop	0	1	0	0	1	5	1	1	1	7
Worcester	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	81	85	105	92	101	175	203	189	193	257



FIRE DEPARTMENT.

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SUMMARY OF FIRE ALARM BOXES

Total number of fire alarm boxes in service as of December 31, 1954, as given in annual report	1,932
CORRECTION—fire alarm boxes installed in 1954, not included in 1954 annual report	4
CORRECTED total number of fire alarm boxes in service as of December 31, 1954	1,936
Fire alarm boxes installed January 1 to December 31, 1955	30
Fire alarm boxes discontinued January 1 to December 31, 1955	11
NET INCREASE in number of fire alarm boxes	19
Total number of fire alarm boxes in service as of December 31, 1955	1,955

DISTRIBUTION OF FIRE ALARM BOXES DISTRICTS

District 1	116	District 7	166
District 2	126	District 8	223
District 3	148	District 9	176
District 4	137	District 10	319
District 5	188	District 11	171
District 6	185		

DIVISIONS

Division 1	712
Division 2	1,243
Total	1,955

FIRE ALARM BOXES INSTALLED IN 1955

DATE	Box	DISTRICT	LOCATION
Jan. 3	12-3239	7	General Services Administration Warehouse, 130 Auckland Street.
Jan. 26	13-2523	9	Ramsay House, Inc., 11 Revere Street.
Feb. 4	12-2712	10	Jewish Recuperation Home, 1251 Centre Street.
Mar. 2	12-2547	9	New England Sinai Hospital, 215 Forest Hills Street.
Mar. 30	5476	11	Hobart Street and Raneleigh Road.
April 1	3225	7	Monticello and Brandon Avenues.
April 1	12-3225	7	Brandon Avenue, opposite Belvoir Road.
April 1	15-3225	7	Monticello Avenue, opposite Montpelier Road.
April 1	328	7	Stonchurst and Topliff Streets.
April 26	13-3343	8	Oliver Wendell Holmes School, 40 School Street.
May 3	13-3225	7	Montpelier Road, opposite No. 20.
May 3	14-3225	7	Monticello Avenue, opposite No. 96.
May 3	16-3225	7	Monticello Avenue, opposite No. 166.
May 9	12-2577	10	Edwin P. Seaver School, 35 Eldridge Road.
May 12	3792	10	Van Brunt Street and Halsey Road.
May 13	3791	10	Cranmore and Badger Roads.
May 31	7138	6	Dorchester Avenue and West Broadway.
June 2	12-2246	5	Eliot Square Nursing Home, 159 Roxbury Street.
June 14	13-2552	9	Washingtonian Hospital, 41 Morton Street.
June 30	1216	3	North Margin and Endicott Streets.
June 30	1217	3	Washington Street North and Thacher Street.
July 1	1218	3	Endicott and Cross Streets.
July 1	1219	3	Hanover and Cross Streets.
Sept. 21	12-3154	7	John Winthrop School, 35 Brookford Street.
Sept. 21	12-3285	8	John Marshall School, 35 Westville Street.
Sept. 21	12-3564	8	Edmund P. Tileston School, 108 Babson Street.
Sept. 21	12-1351	3	William Blackstone School, 33 Blossom Street.
Nov. 30	12-5158	11	Ross-Corey Nursing Home, 249 Corey Road.
Dec. 6	13-7236	6	John Boyle O'Reilly School, 27 Dorchester Street.
Dec. 19	12-7413	6	Patrick F. Gavin School, 215 Dorchester Street.

FIRE ALARM BOXES DISCONTINUED IN 1955

DATE	Box	DISTRICT	LOCATION
Feb. 2	13-6136	1	Commonwealth Pier No. 1, Eastern Steamship Company.
April 20	12-5134	11	Allston Theatre, 128 Brighton Avenue.
April 20	12-5478	11	Hobart School, Hobart Street.
May 4	12-1511	4	Hotel Touraine, Boylston and Tremont Streets.
June 10	12-2328	5	Boston Storage Warehouse, 21-25 Westland Avenue.
Aug. 1	12-1334	3	Bowdoin Square Theatre, Bowdoin Square.
Aug. 1	12-284	10	Richard Olney School, Hastings Street.
Aug. 1	12-3724	10	Elihu Greenwood School, Metropolitan Avenue and Lockwood Street.
Aug. 1	6133	1	Boston & Albany Railroad Yard, Foot of Clyde Street.
Dec. 8	12-1272	3	Thompson's Spa, 239 Washington Street.
Dec. 8	1295	3	Purchase Street and Belcher Lane.

FIRE ALARM BOXES RENUMBERED IN 1955

DATE	OLD BOX NUMBER	NEW BOX NUMBER	DISTRICT	LOCATION
April 27	13-1412	12-1437	4	South Station Express Building, near Beach Street.
Aug. 11	12-1661	12-1652	4	Franklin Square House, 11 East Newton Street.
Nov. 2	7232	7227	6	West Ninth and E Streets.
Nov. 2	7411	7236	6	Dorchester and Vinton Streets.
Nov. 2	12-7411	12-7236	6	John A. Andrew School, Dorchester and Roger Streets.
Dec. 16	12-4125	12-4121	2	Hoosac Docks, Grain Elevator Stores.
Dec. 16	13-1425	13-4121	2	Hoosac Docks, Pier No. 1, East.
Dec. 16	14-4125	14-4121	2	Hoosac Docks, Pier No. 1, West.
Dec. 16	15-4125	15-4121	2	Hoosac Docks, Battery Charging Building.
Dec. 20	311	7276	6	South Bay Avenue and Burnham Street.
Dec. 20	3112	7273	6	Southampton and Atkinson Streets.
Dec. 20	3113	7275	6	Southampton Street and Newmarket Square.
Dec. 20	3115	727	6	Massachusetts Avenue and Southampton Street.
Dec. 20	12-3115	12-727	6	Fire Headquarters, 115 Southampton Street.
Dec. 20	13-3115	13-727	6	Fire Alarm Garage and Shop, 115 Southampton Street.
Dec. 20	14-3115	14-727	6	Maintenance Division, 890 Massachusetts Avenue.
Dec. 27	3116	7271	6	Massachusetts Avenue and Theodore A. Glynn Way.
Dec. 27	3117	7272	6	Massachusetts Avenue, opposite Shirley Street.
Dec. 27	3123	7261	6	Boston and Rawson Streets.
Dec. 27	3125	7263	6	Boston and Mt. Vernon Streets.
Dec. 27	3126	7265	6	Massachusetts Avenue and Clapp Street.
Dec. 27	321	724	6	Preble Street and Old Colony Avenue.
Dec. 27	3211	7241	6	Old Colony Avenue and General Lawrence J. Logan Way.
Dec. 27	3212	7242	6	Old Colony Avenue and Monsignor Dennis F. O'Callaghan Way.
Dec. 29	3213	7244	6	General Lawrence J. Logan and Monsignor Dennis F. O'Callaghan Ways.
Dec. 29	3214	7243	6	Dr. Michael Gavin and Monsignor Dennis F. O'Callaghan Ways.
Dec. 29	3215	7245	6	Dorchester Avenue and Kemp Street.
Dec. 29	3216	7251	6	Dorchester Avenue and Dorset Street.
Dec. 29	12-3216	12-7251	6	Roger Clap School, Harvest Street.
Dec. 29	3217	7253	6	Locust and Von Hillern Streets.
Dec. 29	3218	7252	6	Columbia Road and Dorchester Avenue.
Dec. 29	12-3218	12-7252	6	William E. Russell School, 750 Columbia Road.

FIRE ALARM CONSTRUCTION FORCE
UNDERGROUND CONSTRUCTION — 1955

NUMBER OF CONDUCTORS	TYPE OF CABLE	INSTALLED		REMOVED	
		Feet of Cable	Feet of Conductors	Feet of Cable	Feet of Conductors
2	Twisted pair.....	—	—	450	900
4	Polyethylene, P.V.C.....	8,330	32,920	—	—
4	Rubber-lead.....	—	—	3,092	12,368
4	Non-metallic.....	—	—	100	400
6	Rubber-lead.....	—	—	1,365	8,190
6	Non-metallic.....	—	—	500	3,000
7	Polyethylene, P.V.C.....	6,330	44,310	—	—
10	Polyethylene, P.V.C.....	10,950	109,500	35	350
10	Rubber-lead.....	—	—	3,651	36,510
10	Non-metallic.....	—	—	300	3,000
15	Rubber-lead.....	—	—	340	5,100
19	Polyethylene, P.V.C.....	3,720	70,680	250	4,750
19	Rubber-lead.....	—	—	2,229	42,351
37	Polyethylene, P.V.C.....	1,375	50,875	—	—
37	Rubber-lead.....	—	—	855	31,635
61	Polyethylene, P.V.C.....	1,755	107,055	—	—
61	Rubber-lead.....	—	—	1,540	93,940
Totals.....		32,360	415,340	14,707	242,494

OVERHEAD CONSTRUCTION — 1955

	Removed, Feet	Installed, Feet
No. 10 copperweld, T.B.W.P., "Duraline"	750	4,050
No. 9 A.W.G. galvanized, T.B.W.P.	34,140	—
4 conductors, polyethylene, P.V.C.	—	4,680
4 conductors, non-metallic	300	—
10 conductors, polyethylene, P.V.C.	—	1,350
10 conductors, non-metallic	1,350	—
Totals	36,540	10,080
Line construction installation, removals, slack hauled, transfers, etc.	181 poles	

**MAINTENANCE DIVISION
1955**

MAINTENANCE DIVISION

RECORD OF HOSE

PURCHASED	Condemned	Repaired	In Service	In Stock
30,061 ft.	34,216 ft.	17,602½ ft.	276,825 ft.	7,471 ft.

PAINTING ACTIVITIES

TYPE OF WORK	Number of Jobs	Labor Costs	Material Costs	Total Costs
Complete apparatus.....	4	\$2,063 38	\$605 36	\$2,668 74
Partial apparatus.....	193	2,298 80	546 30	2,845 10
Miscellaneous.....	201	1,172 30	177 77	1,350 07
Total.....	403	\$5,534 48	\$1,329 43	\$6,863 91

REPAIRS TO APPARATUS

PERFORMED By →	B. F. D. Maint. Div.	Outside Concerns	Total
Number of jobs.....	7,969	442	8,411
Cost of labor and material.....	\$136,996 65	\$24,274 35	\$161,271 00

REPAIRS TO BUILDINGS

PERFORMED By →	B. F. D. Maint. Div.	Outside Concerns	Total
Number of jobs.....	1,444	219	1,663
Cost of labor.....	\$33,420 61	\$34,106 62	—
Cost of material.....	7,562 65		
Total cost.....	\$40,983 26	\$34,106 62	\$70,089 88

REPAIRS TO HIGH PRESSURE STATIONS

PERFORMED By →	B. F. D. Maint. Div.	Outside Concerns	Total
Number of jobs.....	38	1	39
Cost of labor.....	\$1,533 94	\$117 50	—
Cost of materials.....	644 77		
Total.....	\$2,178 71	\$117 50	\$2,296 21

REPAIRS TO FIREBOATS

PERFORMED By →	B. F. D. Maint. Div.	Outside Concerns	Total
Number of jobs.....	186	26	312
Cost of labor.....	\$8,071 41	\$11,667 95	—
Cost of materials.....	\$8,936 71		
Total.....	\$17,008 12	\$11,667 95	\$28,676 07

MOTOR EQUIPMENT INVENTORY

TYPE OF EQUIPMENT	In Service	In Reserve	Total
Pumping Engines.....	48	26	74
Hose Wagons.....	28	15	43
Aerial Ladders.....	22	6	28
Junior Aerials.....	6	3	9
City Service Trucks.....	2	0	2
Water Towers.....	2	2	4
Rescue Wagons.....	1	2	3
Wrecking Unit.....	2	0	2
Fuel Wagon.....	2	0	2
Lighting Plant.....	3	0	3
Auxiliary Pumps.....	1	5	6
Chief Officers' Cars.....	32	25	57
Commercial Cars (Trucks).....	27	0	27
Fork Lift Truck.....	1	0	1
Caterpillar Tractor.....	1	0	1
Steam Fire Engines.....	0	2	2
Totals.....	178	86	264

FIRE PREVENTION DIVISION
1955

REVENUE RECEIVED FOR LICENSES, PERMITS, ETC., FOR THE YEAR 1955

MONTH	Permits— Inflammable Fluids	License Renewals	Open Air Fires	Hauling	Tank Removals	Fireworks	Deductions— Refunds	Totals
January.....	\$415 00	\$918 00	\$147 50	\$10 00	\$2 00	—	\$6 00	\$1,486 50
February.....	320 00	878 00	123 50	4 00	1 50	—	2 00	1,325 00
March.....	781 50	6,483 50	139 00	7 00	1 00	—	6 00	7,400 00
April.....	24,697 00	9,020 00	109 50	7 50	2 50	—	1 00	33,835 50
May.....	4,759 00	9,564 50	191 00	5 00	1 50	\$0 50	8 00	14,513 50
June.....	2,582 50	5,165 00	200 00	7 50	3 50	—	25 00	7,933 50
July.....	1,903 50	1,614 00	148 00	4 00	2 00	—	7 00	3,664 50
August.....	590 00	1,868 00	182 50	5 50	—	—	3 00	2,643 00
September.....	797 50	502 00	253 50	5 50	2 50	—	4 50	1,598 50
October.....	915 00	271 00	215 50	6 00	—	—	6 50	1,401 00
November.....	838 00	1,190 50	154 00	4 00	2 00	—	16 50	2,172 00
December.....	581 50	537 50	321 50	4 00	1 00	—	—	1,445 50
Suspense Fund.....	96 00	41,833 20	6 00	—	—	—	—	41,935 20
Totals.....	\$50,276 50	\$79,845 20	\$2,533 50	\$70 00	\$19 50	\$0 50	\$85 50	\$121,359 70

Total Receipts for 1955.....\$121,359 70
 Total Receipts for 1954.....116,519 00
 Increase.....\$2,843 70

NEW FUEL OIL PERMITS
COMPARISON CHART

	1954		1955	
	PERMITS	GALLONS	PERMITS	GALLONS
January.....	579	162,755	874	216,485
February.....	528	157,320	393	91,570
March.....	379	132,105	826	193,175
April.....	303	108,480	230	54,720
May.....	313	113,115	527	119,050
June.....	444	139,405	724	170,435
July.....	499	149,375	426	132,670
August.....	586	163,730	397	103,015
September.....	682	174,301	446	126,005
October.....	1,095	265,330	583	170,185
November.....	881	230,195	956	270,145
December.....	1,143	273,129	1,059	268,565
Totals.....	7,432	2,069,240	7,441	1,916,020

The year 1955, compared with the year 1954, showed an increase of nine new permits issued for the storage of fuel oil and a decrease (compared with 1954) of 153,220 gallons of fuel oil.

Inflammable Fluid Permit Fees*
(Initial and Renewal)

January 1–December 31, 1955.....	78,553 at \$0 50 —	\$39,276 50
January 1–December 31, 1954.....	77,150 at \$0 50 —	\$38,575 00
gain.....	1,403	\$ 701 50

* Includes fees for fuel oil and other inflammable fluid permits.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS AND INVESTIGATIONS — 1955

GENERAL INSPECTIONS

Dwelling houses, other than 1- and 2-family	14,599
Places of assembly, cabarets, dance halls, etc.	5,100
Mercantile and manufacturing occupancy	2,300
Department, small retail stores, etc.	1,596
Waterfront	1,240
Reinspections (all types)	5,027

SPECIAL INSPECTIONS AND SURVEYS

Private schools	428
Oil farms	51
Film exchanges	84
Boarding homes for the aged, convalescent homes, etc.	1,003
Jails, institutions, etc.	26
Reinspections (all types)	355

INSPECTIONS BY FIRE COMPANY OFFICERS AND FIREFIGHTERS

Building inspections	64,042
Theaters	6,504
Schoolhouses	7,000
Public Buildings	786
Carhouses	30
Range/space oil burner inspections	3,182
Power oil burner inspections	6,346
Inflammable fluids, storage facilities, etc.	3,001
Open air fires	695
Tank removals	39
License renewals, inflammables, garages, etc.	3,814
Parking lots	331
License petitions (location approvals)	173
Blasting	140
Boarding homes for children	30
Day nurseries	92
Hospitals	182
Reinspections (all types)	8,249

Total Inspections and Reinspections 136,526

Hazardous conditions remedied	68,214
Conditions referred to other departments (written)	895

FIRE DRILLS

Schools	2,801
Theaters	278
Hospitals, institutions, etc.	354
Industrial and mercantile establishments	1,233

ARSON SQUAD ACTIVITIES — 1955

Undetermined fires	118
Suspicious fires	21
Incendiary fires	2
Tavern fires	8
Causes given but investigated	199
Multiple alarms	78
Deaths	22*
Injuries	74*
Arrests	12
Grand Jury indictments	4
Municipal Court cases	12
Municipal Court convictions	6
Superior Court cases	4
Superior Court convictions	5
Gas odors investigated	53
Fire Prevention inspections	106

* CASUALTY CAUSES

	Deaths	Injuries
Air compressor explosion	1	—
Automotive fires, ignition of vapors	—	4
Carbon monoxide fumes (no fire)	1	1
Careless smoking	9	21
Careless use of inflammable fluids, compounds	—	3
Careless use of matches/candles	1	4
Children and matches	—	2
Clothing ignited by stove	—	5
Defective chimney	1	—
Defective wiring	2	2
Explosion of coal stove	—	5
Grease on stove	—	1
Gas hot water heater — flashback	—	1
Illuminating gas explosion	—	1
Improper use of gasoline	—	1
Oil burners — space/portable/range	4	18
Overheated kitchen wood stove	1	2
Spark from buffing machine	—	1
Sparks from burning rubbish outdoors	1	2
Wood studding too close to chimney	1	—
Total Deaths and Injuries	22	74

* Of the 22 deaths, 4 were children under sixteen years of age; 17 of the 74 injuries were children under sixteen years of age.

CHEMICAL LABORATORY Summary of Analyses and Tests — 1955

Tests of flammable fluids, solids, compounds, etc.	85
Tests of decorative materials	771
Analyses of material for Arson Squad	19

PHOTOGRAPHIC LABORATORY Summary of Activities — 1955

	NEGA- TIVES	PRINTS
Accidents	575	1,150
Administration and Department Activities	1,220	3,024
Personnel	90	50
Fires—suspicious and undetermined	677	935
Fires—other than suspicious and undetermined	955	5,730
Fire—prevention (hazards, etc.)	405	1,215

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

ORDERS AND CONDITIONS REFERRED TO OTHER DEPARTMENTS — 1955

Month	1st Orders	Service Orders	Building	Health	Public Safety	Public Works	Miscellaneous	Totals
January	188	6	53	6	—	1	1	255
February	101	7	59	9	1	1	5	243
March	192	9	74	13	—	2	3	293
April	139	8	62	8	2	2	4	225
May	182	10	83	10	1	2	3	291
June	179	12	71	9	1	1	3	278
July	165	8	54	10	—	2	2	241
August	184	11	49	9	1	—	4	258
September	177	7	57	9	—	—	2	252
October	240	11	52	12	—	2	1	320
November	192	10	47	11	—	1	2	263
December	200	15	68	8	—	—	—	291
Totals	2,208	117	729	114	6	13	32	3,229

COMPLAINTS RECEIVED AT FIRE PREVENTION DIVISION — 1955

Month	Telephone	Counter	Letter			Total
			Public	Health	Miscellaneous	
January.....	79	7	10	3	6	105
February.....	59	5	10		3	77
March.....	52	1	2		3	58
April.....	84	8	11	3		110
May.....	101	5	10	7		126
June.....	58	4	5			67
July.....	55	5				60
August.....	59	5	2	1	4	73
September.....	51	3	2	1	7	64
October.....	77	2	3	3	1	86
November.....	60	2	2	2	4	70
December.....	87	3	4	1	2	98
Total.....	822	50	61	21	30	994

ANALYSIS OF FIRES
IN BUILDINGS
AND CAUSES OF FIRES

ANALYSIS OF FIRES IN BUILDINGS—1955

Construction of Buildings

Fire-resistive	257
Second-Class	1,345
Frame	1,166
Other types	12
Total	2,780

Point of Origin

Basement	597
First floor	790
Second floor	510
Third floor	334
Above third floor	163
Roof	62
Outside	324
Total	2,780

Extent of Fire

Confined to point of origin	1,901
Confined to buildings	822
Spread to other buildings	57
Total	2,780

Causes of Fires in Buildings—1955

Chimney, soot burning	36
Defective chimney	55
Sparks from chimney at roof	42
Defectively-installed heater	93
Rubbish near heater	16
Hot ashes	13
Fuel oil burners	331
Careless smoking	1,046
Children with matches	167
Other careless use of matches	30
Defective wiring	144
Electric appliances and motors	293
Flammable liquid near fire	15
Kerosene lamps and stoves	2
Grease and food on stove	47
Clothes, furniture, near fire	15
Spontaneous ignition	54
Fireworks	1
Thawing water pipes	24
Sparks from machines	27
City gas and appliances	8
Miscellaneous known causes	98
Malicious mischief	70
Incendiary or suspicious	32
Unknown	121
Total	2,780

Causes of Outdoor Fires—1955

Rubbish	2,042
Dump	84
Brush or grass	2,439
Other outdoor	980
Marine	13
Automobiles	727
Total	6,285