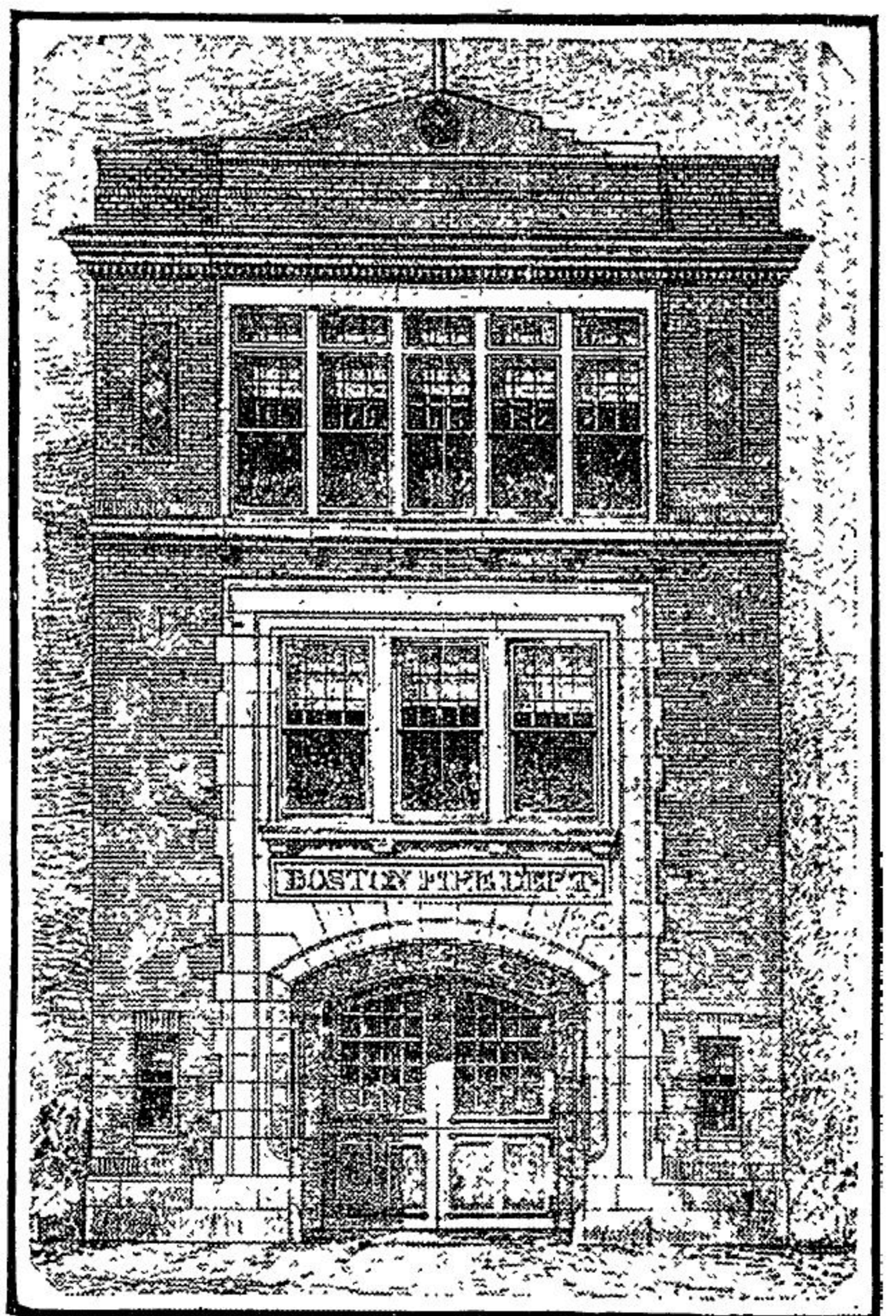


ENGINE 7 WILL HAVE NEW UP-TO-DATE FIRE HOUSE

Contract Signed For East-St Station Provides Many Comforts For the Men



NEW HOME OF ENGINE COMPANY 7 THAT WILL BE BUILT
ON EAST STREET.

Mayor Curley has signed the contract for a new fire station for Engine 7 on East st, according to a statement made yesterday by the acting Fire Commissioner, Maj William J. Casey.

This action is the result of repeated attempts by city officials and officers of the Fire Department to give this important and centrally located company proper housing under healthy conditions and to make suitable provision for the new motor apparatus to be installed there.

The old building, now to be torn down, was erected at a cost of \$24,000 in 1869, under Mayor Nathaniel B. Shurtleff, for the T. C. Amory Engine Company 7, then located on Purchase st, and Union Hose Company 3, located on Hudson st.

Chief Clerk Frank Underhill of the Fire Department remembers their moving into the new building in 1870 with a new 500-gallon fire engine. Mr Underhill had quarters there as one of the members of Boston's original Protective Wagon 1, which was also quartered in the building. Of the 11 men that made up the company, only one other is now alive—Thomas F. Lally of 73 Fletcher st, Roslindale.

Broad Opening for Quick Exit

The new fire station will be of rich dark red glazed brick, with limestone trimmings. The distinctive feature of the front is the vestibuled entrance, which permits a greater width of opening and consequently a quicker start to fires.

The apparatus room will have a reinforced concrete floor, thoroughly hardened against the abrasive action of wheel chains of the new 1000-gallon gasoline pumper, weighing 10,000 pounds.

In the basement will be located the steam heating plant, hose-drying racks, drying room for the men's clothing, terminal room for the underground fire alarm cables, oil room, etc.

On the second floor will be the captain's office and bedroom, a lieutenant's room and officers' bathroom. In the

rear is the locker room, with ample showers, toilets and lavatories for the men. There is also on this floor a small room to be used as a library, where the men may study, read or write a letter in comparative quiet. Nowadays, when to qualify as an officer a private has to go through the drill school, graduate from the Fire College and finally pass a stiff Civil Service examination, the advantage of a library, where men may study with facilities at hand, is obvious.

Billiards, Piano, Kitchen

On the third floor will be located the recreation room with billiard and card tables, piano, phonograph, etc. all to make the quarters a pleasant place to live in. In the rear is the dormitory with large high windows on two sides and large monitor ventilator in roof. The remaining space on this floor is given over to a combination kitchen and mess hall with gas range, cupboards, tables, etc. As the hours of duty are now arranged it is impossible for the men to leave the house for all their meals.

Finally, at the top of the building is a sunny, well heated and ventilated room opening on a roof garden occupying the front portion of the roof. Here the members may spend much of their leisure time in the open air.

It is the aim of the department to revive, as far as possible, the esprit de corps of "fire laddie" days, and it is believed that improvement in environment and living conditions will promote this aim.

Quick descent to the main floor is effected by a double set of sliding poles. The floors throughout are of magnesite composition with sanitary base turned up on the walls, and without the cracks of wooden flooring. The walls are of hard plaster, except in the apparatus room, where they are of light colored glazed face brick.

The plans and specifications were drawn by James T. Ball, architect-engineer of the department. The contractors are the C. & R. Construction Company, Boston, and the price is \$38,900, with five months in which to complete the work.