FOREST HILLS GETS FIRST AUTO CHEMICAL MACHINE

New Fire Station at Walk Hill and Wenham Sts Will Be Placed in Commission Today.

Automobile chemical engine '13 will be placed in commission this morning by Acting Commissioner Carroll in the new fire station erected at Walk Hill and Wenham Sts, Forest Hills. The machine was built last year at Springfield and is the first piece of motor apparatus to be permanently installed in the department service.

The new commissioner is a great admirer of motor fire apparatus and intends to establish a flying squadron at Grove Hill. For 20 years residents of Forest Hills have sought additional fire protection, but it was not until Benjamin W. Wells took charge that definite arrangements were made to respond.

Mr. Wells selected a site for a fire station at Forest Hills shortly before he was removed. After-Samuel D. Parker became commissioner the city council appropriated money for a fire station and last winter the auto-chemical was built at Springfield at a cost of $6,480.

The new fire station is of brick, 2½ stories high and is regarded as one of the model fire stations of the country. The floors and ceilings are supported by massive steel girders. A feature of the house will be that the patrol desk and sitting rooms are all in one place.

The main floor is of light brick and in the rear is a provision for stalls should the fire leaders decide to place horse-drawn apparatus at the house. Even with the auto-chemical in service, there will be ample room for horse apparatus.

The house is finished with Carolina pine and well sheathed, ensuring a comfortable house in winter. On the second floor are quarters for three officers, while back of those are the dormitories and lounging rooms as well as shower baths and drying rooms. Moller and Smith designed the house and it cost the city $12,300.

The new chemical is equipped with two 25-gallon chemical tanks, several gallons of chemical, a reel of hydrant hose, a small extension ladder, two hand extinguishers, a life line, axes, (2) ladders, hose directors and other equipment that will make it an up-to-date piece of fire apparatus. The machine will carry a large searchlight and two large fixed lights in front.

The following men are designated to report here this morning: James T. Jones of engines 3-3, Leonard Griffin of ladder 15, Frederick O. Menghui of engine 27, David J. Ryan of ladder 6 and Phineas P. Mccullough of engine 8. A lieutenant will be assigned today.

Other transfers in the fire department which will take effect today are: William J. Keane of engine 20 to engine 15, William A. Keen of ladder 21 to engine 3-3, Charles H. Lane of engine 2 to engine 3-3, Arthur A. Nixon of engine 4 to engine 22, Andrew J. Mosley of ladder 3 to engine 19, Tracey O. Littlefield of engine 15 to engine 23, John E. Curran of engine 15 to engine 21.

Michael A. Murphy, president of the Central labor union, just reinstated, has been assigned to a smaller company.

The following young men have been appointed as probationary firemen: V. Neve of 253 Bunker Hill st., Charlestown, to engine 16; Edward H. McCarthy of 77 L. st., South Boston, to engine 5, and Francis Murphy of 59 Polk st., Charlestown, to engine 9; Richard S. Decin of 93 Rookhall st., Roxbury, to ladder 6; William J. Leonard of 119 Columbia st, to ladder 12, and Edward R. Harrington of 56 Everett st., Charlestown, to ladder 12.