

I. Case of Ladderman William J. Fleming of Ladder Company 4.

An alarm was sounded from Box 2163 at 9:22 p. m., April 22, 1951. Upon arrival of the apparatus, it was found that the dwelling house at 48 Munroe Street, Roxbury was involved in fire, and a number of children were trapped within.

Ladderman Fleming entered a second-floor rear window over a makeshift ladder and made his way through a heavy concentration of smoke and heat, through one bedroom to a second bedroom, where he found two small children. He carried the children to the window and passed them to a member of his company on the ladder. Returning for a further search, he found a baby about six months old in a carriage. He picked the baby up in his arms, groped his way back to the ladder, and as he was half way down the entire rear of the building burst into flame.

This rescue was effected with great personal risk and it was only through Ladderman Fleming's perseverance and total disregard for his own safety that the children's lives were saved. He was highly commended in General Orders No. 19, series of 1951.

The Board of Merit, consisting of the Chief of Department, and the Deputy Chiefs, is pleased to recommend the awarding of the "Walter Scott Medal" to Ladderman William J. Fleming.