# 76th Annual CONCERT and BALL



## BOSTON FIRE and PROTECTIVE DEPARTMENTS

Boston Garden

Monday Evening, April 18th, 1955

#### APPRECIATION



The trustees of the Relief Fund in behalf of the members of the Boston Fire and Protective Departments extend our sincerest thanks to all who have aided in making this 76th Annual Ball a success. It is only through your continued help and cooperation that this needed fund may continue to take care of those who have lost their bread-winner protecting our citizenry, from the ravages of fire.

It is our ardent hope that you who exemplified the great virtue of charity may have a most enjoyable evening.

May continued help and happiness be yours.

JOHN M. BURKE, President for the Trustees of the Boston Firemen's Relief Fund.

Picture on cover taken by Roland Oxton of the Boston American. This fire claimed the lives of three persons on the morning of Junz 24, 1953. This picture won the annual award given by the Boston Firefighters Local 718.



### 76th Annual Concert and Ball

BOSTON
FIRE AND PROTECTIVE
DEPARTMENTS

Patriots Day Eve Monday Evening, April 18, 1955

> BOSTON GARDEN Boston, Mass.

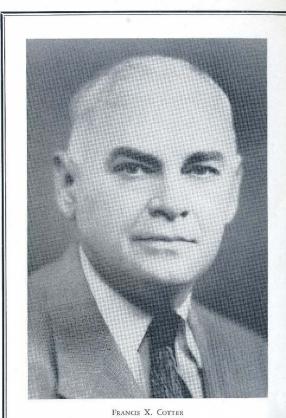
Proceeds to Boston Firemen's Relief Fund







JOHN B. HYNES Mayor of Boston



Francis X. Cotter Fire Commissioner



JOHN V. STAPLETON
Chief of Department



JOSEPH F. SULLIVAN
Chief, Boston Protective Department



Dr. Edward H. Hommel

Medical Examiner

#### 1955 ANNUAL BALL COMMITTEES

Honorary Chairman:

Fire Commissioner Francis X. Cotter

Reception Committee:

Francis J. Dooley (Chairman) Joseph Hurrie

Ticket Committee:

Michael J. O'Donnell (Chairman) Joseph Finneran

Publicity Committee:

Leo Walker (Chairman) Henry F. McCormick Robert Crawford

Program and Printing Committee:

Henry F. McCormick (Chairman) Emilio Marino John P. Brooks Joseph Dashner

Decorating Committee:

Francis J. Dooley (Chairman) Joseph O'Donnell Herbert White

Entertainment Committee:

John M. Burke (Chairman) Joseph Hurrie

Ticket Sellers and Donation Committee:

Michael J. O'Donnell (Chairman) Leo Walker Henry F. McCormick Joseph Hurrie

#### BOSTON FIREMEN'S MUTUAL RELIEF ASSOCIATION

The following members died in 1954:

CHARLES W. FRASIER	T . F
CHARLES W. FRASIER	Ex-Engine 8
WILLIAM J. ROONEY	Ex-District Chief, District 15
DENNIS I. COUGHLIN	Deputy Chief. Headquarters
DENNIS J. COUGHLIN	Fy-Captain-Foring 31
CHARLES A. THOMPSON.	Ex Captain Engine 24
CHARLES A. THOMPSON	Ex-Captain Engine 24
THOMAS L. DARCY. JAMES J. DEVANEY.	Ex-Ladder 8
JAMES J. DEVANEY	Engine 41
WILLIAM J. WELCH	Ex-Ladder 10
JAMES L. HARRINGTON	Ex-Engine 51
JOHN B. CARR	Headquarters
WILLIAM C. WESSON	Tower 1
Augustus L. Lyons	F - 1 - 20
Laure E. Manager	Engine 28
JOHN F. MOONEY	Ex-Lieutenant—Ladder 6
HERBERT W. SULLIVAN	Engine 1
THOMAS R. O'BRIEN	Ex-Engine 44
JAMES F, RYAN	Ex-Maintenance Division
JAMES J. CROWLEY	Fx-District Chief-District 1
FRANCIS M. KELLEY.	Ex Fire Prevention Division
HENRY A. KANE.	To Taming 12
DENKY A. NANE	Ex-Engine 15
PETER A. McCauley John R. Keefe	
JOHN R. KEEFE	Ex-High Pressure
George T. Menz	Ex-Ladder 30
WILLIAM M. DANIELS	Ex-Fire Prevention Division
J. J. Skehan	Ex-Engine 11
R. F. ROYCROFT	Ex-Fire Prevention Division
MICHAEL J. MURPHY	Ex-Ladder 30
James J. Cox.	
JOSEPH A. HAYNER.	En Handauarten
John J. Donohue	Ex-Ladder 23
T. E. MORRISON	Ex-Engine 31
T. J. COLLINS,	Ex-Maintenance Division
BERNARD E. PLUNKETT	Ex-Ladder 21
TIMOTHY D. DONAHUE	
DANIEL P. DALEY	Ex-Engine 45
Frank J. Sullivan	Ex-Engine 36
JOSEPH P. HANTON	Ex-Captain—Engine 33
JACOBUS W. J. WEYDT	
JOHN R. CONCANNON	Ex-Engine 30
RICHARD N. McDonough	
RAYMOND T. LONERGAN	Maintenant Division
Crosse P. Deserran	
George F. Burckhart	EX-Engine 18
Albert F. H. Outerbridge	Ex-Apparatus Operator—Engine 1
WILLIAM J. F. DEVIN	Ex-Engine 16
WALTER H. GREENE	Ex-Lieutenant—Engine 19
FRANK J. LINNEYEx-Lie	utenant-Fire Prevention Division
Bernard J. Farren	x-Apparatus Operator-Engine 35
JOHN J. BLAKELEY	Ex-Captain-Ladder 6
RAYMOND T. VESSEY	Ex-Ladder 14
FRANK A. FITZGERALD.	Ex Ladder 23
MALCOLM MCINTOSH	Ev Lieutepant—Engine 45
WILLIAM J. JOHNSON	Ev Maintenance District
WILLIAM J. JOHNSON	Ex-Maintenance Division
RUSSELL A. AMARAL	

#### 1955 SERVICE BUTTON LIST FIRE DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL WHO HAVE COMPLETED 40 YEARS OF SERVICE

FIRE FIGHTING FORCE
Ladderman John J. Devine, Ladder Co. 4
FIRE ALARM (Construction)
Working Foreman Timothy J. Cadigan
FIRE ALARM (Operations)
ASST. Supt. J. Edward Laughlin
Senior Operator William H. Griffin

Fire Department Personnel Who Have Completed 25 Years of Service

FIRE FIGHTING FORCE
District Chief Edmund T. Lynch, Dist. 1
District Chief Edmund J. Sheehan, Dist. 7
District Chief Robert M. Walsh, Dist. 8
Captain John E. Broughton, Lad. Co. 24
Captain John J. Coakley, Eng. Co. 46
Captain George M. Eaton, Eng. Co. 16
Captain Irving L. Johnson, Eng. Co. 33
Lieutenant Edward J. Abbot, Eng. Co. 9
Lieutenant Herbert J. Cahill, Eng. Co. 56
Lieutenant Francis J. McNamara, Lad. Co. 23
Lieutenant Francis J. McNamara, Lad. Co. 25
Lieutenant William J. Donahue, Eng. Co. 46
Lieutenant Norman F. Davidson, Eng. Co. 46
Lieutenant Norman F. Davidson, Eng. Co. 46
Hoseman Frederick J. Byrne, Eng. Co. 51
Hoseman Edward W. Graff, Eng. Co. 56
Hoseman Garode R. Joyce, Tower 1
Ladderman Bernard J. Judge, Lad. Co. 7

HEADQUARTERS (Uniform)
Aide to Chief of Dept. Arthur J. Wright
Hoseman Peter J. Bradley
Hoseman Raymond J. Dempsey

FIRE ALARM (Construction)
Motor Equipment Operator Robert E. Harrington
Working Foreman Bartholonnew J. McDermott
Working Foreman Machinist William L. Pinero
FIRE ALARM OPERATIONS

Principal Fire Alarm Operator John M. McCarthy
Fire Prevention (Uniform)
Lieutenant Jerome P. Coffey
Lieutenant Walter T. Kelley
Apparatus Operator John J. McCrackin
Arson Inspector Frank J. Marr
Hoseman Edward J. O'Gorman

#### PROGRAM

8:00 P.M. Concert

Musical Program by KARLE ROHDE AND HIS ORCHESTRA

8:30 P.M. Marching and Music Sacred Heart C.Y.O. Band Sacred Heart Parish, Roslindale, Mass.

9:00 P.M. Entrance of Officers and Guests of the Boston Fire and Protective Departments

Honor Escort — B.F.D. Band and Color Guard National Anthem

- 9:15 P.M. Greetings by President of Boston Firemen's Relief Fund President John M. Burke
- 9:20 P.M. Presentation of "Roll of Merit" by Chief of Department John V. Stapleton

  Presentation of "Roll of Merit" by Assistant Chief of Department Edward Montgomery
- 9:30 P.M. Presentation of "Patrick J. Kennedy Medal" by Mayor John B. Hynes
- 9:35 P.M. Presentation of "Walter Scott Medal" by Fire Commissioner Francis X. Cotter
- 9:40 P.M. Presentation of 25 Years Service Buttons by Assistant Chief of Department Patrick E. Collins
   Presentation of 40 Year Service Buttons by Assistant Chief of Department Leo Driscoll
- 9:50 P.M. Presentation of Award to WBZ-TV
- 9:55 P.M. Ceremony to Departed Members of the Boston Fire and Protective Departments

#### PROGRAM

10:00 P.M. Entertainment

1. MILLER BROTHERS

"Trampoline Artists"

2. COURT & SAUNDERS

"Sweethearts of Song"

3. ROBY & DELLS

"Flying Ballet"

4. EVE WALKER & CO.

"Trapeze-In Flying High"

5. GEORGE NELSON

"The Singing Firefighters"

6. THE ADAMSONS

"Lady in the Moon" Perch Sensation

7. MARINO SISTERS

"Whirlwind of Acrobatic's and Tumbling"

- 8. THE HELENE MARTIN DANCERS
- 9. KARLE ROHDE ......Orchestra Girl Vocalist

11:00 P.M. to 1:00 A.M. Dancing.

Music by KARL ROHDE AND HIS ORCHESTRA

Master of Ceremonies
DICK COURT

Show Presented and Produced by THEODORE STURGIS
Diversified Entertainment
321 Tremont Street — Beston, Mass.

#### BOSTON FIREMEN'S RELIEF FUND OFFICERS



HENRY F. McCormick

1st Vice-President



Joseph G. FINNERAN
2nd Vice-President



LIEUT. JOHN M. BURKE President



LEO WALKER
Secretary



MICHAEL J. O'DONNELL Treasurer

#### BOSTON FIREMEN'S RELIEF FUND

#### TRUSTEES





CAPT. JOHN P. BROOKS LIEUT. ROBERT CRAWFORD



Joseph Dashner



Francis J. Dooley



Joseph Hurrie



CAPT. EMILIO MARINO



JOSEPH O'DONNELL



HERBERT T. WHITE

#### BOSTON FIRE DEPARTMENT CHAPLAINS



Right Reverend Monsignor HENRY J. O'CONNELL



Rabbi Samuel I. Korff



Reverend
JOHN E. BARCLAY

#### PRAYER FOR FIREMEN

O Almighty God, powerful Creator of the universe and loving Protector of all who trust in Thee, give me strength in the work to which I have dedicated my life. Help me to see even in disaster and ruin the mysterious designs of Thy Providence. Raise me to the dignity of an angel of mercy as I speed to the relief of those whom Thou hast permitted to be afflicted by the scourge of fire. As Thy Divine Son Christ our Lord accomplished His earthly mission through self-sacrificing service of his human brethren, so let me find in the faithful fulfillment of my duty the means of imitating His all-embracing charity and of uniting myself with Him through the consolations and rewards for which I honestly strive.

I ask Thy blessing, O God, for my brothers as well as myself in the perilous tasks which are entrusted to our common effort. Spare us to our families and our loved ones; mercifully hear their prayers for our safety which ascend to Thee cach day as we depart for our posts of duty. Give us courage to face danger without flinching, to be calm and constant as we risk our lives that others may be spared, to be towers of strength for those who are visited by the tragedies which call us into action. Help us to work together, to bear one another's burdens, to dedicate ourselves in a spirit of honesty and fairness to the interests of the community which places such great trust in us. Drive far from our minds all thoughts of selfishness which might lead us to debase the ideals which have been created for us by our noble predereccors.

Have mercy, dear God, on the souls of our comrades who have made the supreme sacrifice in the performance of their duty, and on all who have gone before us after years of faithful discharge of the responsibilities which now rest on ourselves. Give us grace to prepare each day for our own summons to Thy tribunal of justice. Into Thy hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit. Whitherso-ever Thou callest me, I am ready to go. Merciful Father of all men, save me from all bodily harm, if it be Thy Will, but above all, help me to be loyal and true, respectable and honorable, obedient and valiant. Thus fortified by virtue, I shall have no fear, for I shall then belong to Thee and shall never be separated from Thee. Amen.

By: -

Most Reverend Richard J. Cushing, D.D.,
Archbishop of Boston

#### WALTER SCOTT MEDAL

#### Ladderman HARRY E. BRYANT of Ladder Company 22

On the night of November 18, 1954, a still alarm was received at 10:51 P.M. followed by an alarm from box 4173, at 10:52 P.M., then a second alarm at 10:56 P.M. Upon the arrival of the apparatus, it was found that the fire had involved a three story dwelling house at No. 8 Short Street Court, Charlestown.

The members were informed that a young boy was trapped on the second floor. Captain Walter W. Corwin of Engine Co. 32 made a heoric attempt to reach the boy but was cut off by fire in the stairwell, receiving burns to his face and ears.

Meanwhile, Ladderman Harry E. Bryant of Ladder Co. 22 had gone over a ladder in the front of the building to a second floor window, from which heavy black smoke was pouring, as the fire had originated in a

portable oil heater. He entered the window, and without the benefit of a mask, after three attempts, made his way across the room which was filled with heat, smoke and gases, and found the unconscious boy in a rear room. In spite of the very difficult conditions present, he managed to carry the boy from the room, down the stairwell, to the street.

Ladderman Bryant collapsed at this point from sheer exhaustion. This prompt and courageous action on the part of Ladderman Bryant undoubtedly saved the life of the young boy. He was highly commended by the Fire Commissioner, in General Orders No. 77, series of 1954. Because of his prompt, courageous and determined action and the extreme personal risk involved, the Board of Merit recommended that Ladderman Harry E. Bryant be awarded the "Walter Scott Medal.'



HARRY E. BRYANT



WALTER SCOTT MEDAL FOR VALOR This medal established 1922 in memory of Walter Scott

#### PATRICK J. KENNEDY MEDAL

#### Ladderman JOSEPH F. HOAR of Ladder Company 4

An alarm of fire was received from Box 2235 at 5:44 o'clock on the evening of Monday, December 27, 1954 for a fire in a three family dwelling at No. 3 Gay Street in Roxbury.

Upon arrival of Ladder Co. 4, they were informed that a man still remained in the house, being trapped in the kitchen that was located in the rear of the first floor.

Ladderman Hoar immediately entered the front door which lead into a hallway about 20 feet long, filled with heat and smoke. Paint on the entrance door, and the wallpaper on both sides, were blistered from the severe heat. Ladderman Hoar dropped to the floor, and with determined effort crawled along the hallway to the rear part of the house and entered the kitchen. Fire had entered



JOSEPH F. HOAR

the kitchen and due to the intense heat and smoke, he could not locate the victim, and called to him to cry out in order to indicate his presence. The man was conscious to the extent that he moaned and Ladderman Hoar crawled over to the extreme right corner of the room and found the man. He dragged

him across the floor to the hallway where he was assisted by other members in removing him to the street. The victim, an elderly man of 75 years, was taken to the Boston City Hospital in a police ambulance. The rescue was accomplished without a mask and Ladderman Hoar suffered first degree burns on the right wrist and second degree burns to both knees. He was later treated at the Boston City Hospital for these injuries. He was highly commended by the Fire Commissioner in General Orders No. 2, series of

1955 for his courageous action. Because of his prompt action and the extreme personal risk to which he exposed himself in effecting this rescue the Board of Merit recommended that Ladderman Joseph F. Hoar be awarded the "Patrick J. Kennedy Medal."



PATRICK J. KENNEDY MEDAL This medal established 1951 in memory of Patrick J. Kennedy

#### ROLL OF MERIT

Lieutenant ANDREW J. CANNING of Engine Company 46 (formerly assigned to Engine Company 34)

and

Ladderman JOHN C. MURPHY of Ladder Company 14

The department responded to an alarm of fire from Box 5121 at 6:55 P.M., followed by a second alarm at 7:02 P.M., on January 23, 1954. The fire was in a five story apartment house at 1139-1141 Commonwealth Avenue in Allston section of Boston.

Upon the arrival of the department the members were informed that two elderly women were trapped on the fifth floor. They were apparently about to jump from a window. Lieutenant Canning and Ladderman Murphy raised a fifty foot ladder, with assistance, to the window. The butt of the ladder was resting on an icy sidewalk, and it rose almost perpendicularly to the fifth floor window, barely reaching said window. It was not possible to dog the ladder. Fire and smoke were issuing through the fourth floor window directly underneath the apartment where the women were trapped. Disregarding its precarious position, Lieutenant Canning and Ladderman Murphy ascended the ladder to the fifth floor, reached the women, and assisted them over the ladder, to the street. Shortly after the removal of the women, fire extended through the ceiling and windows into the fifth floor apartment, consuming the entire contents. Lieutenant Canning and Ladderman Murphy effected this rescue under very difficult conditions and exposed themselves to great personal risk in rescuing the women, who, otherwise, might have died in the fire. They were highly commended by the Fire Commissioner in General Orders No. 8, series of 1954.

Because of their prompt action, and great personal risk involved, the Board of Merit recommends that the names of Licutenant Andrew J. Canning and Ladderman John C. Murphy be placed on the "Roll of Merit."

#### THE BOSTON FIREMEN'S RELIEF FUND



#### PURPOSE OF THE ORGANIZATION

The Boston Firemen's Relief Fund was organized in 1879 and incorporated under the statutes of Massachusetts in 1909 and is now completing seventy-six years of successful operation.

Every man appointed permanently to the department automatically is eligible for assistance from the Boston Firemen's Relief Fund from the day he is appointed.

The proceeds from this ball are used to pay doctor's bills and hospitalization of members injured in the performance of their duty, also to assist dependents of deceased firefighters.

The Board of Trustees will greatly appreciate any contributions and donations to help the work of this fund



On the occasion of our Seventy-Sixth Anniversary may we the members of the Boston Firemen's Relief Association express our gratitude to the Doctors and Nurses of the City of Boston in all our Hospitals for their prompt, efficient and sympathetic treatment to our unfortunate brave firefighters who have been injured protecting the homes and families of the citizens of our City.

