

77th Annual Concert and Ball



**BOSTON FIRE and PROTECTIVE
DEPARTMENTS**

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Boston Garden

MONDAY EVENING, APRIL 16th, 1956

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 77th 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.

JOSEPH L. HURRIE, *President*
for the Trustees of the
Boston Firemen's Relief Fund.

OUR COVER PICTURE

This photograph was made by Harry Trask, Boston Herald and Traveler staff photographer at four-alarm fire on Boylston Street in early morning of Tuesday, March 6, 1956.



77th *Annual Concert* *and Ball*

BOSTON
FIRE AND PROTECTIVE
DEPARTMENTS

Monday Evening, April 16th, 1956

BOSTON GARDEN
Boston, Mass.

Proceeds to Boston Firemen's Relief Fund





JOHN B. HYNES
Mayor of Boston



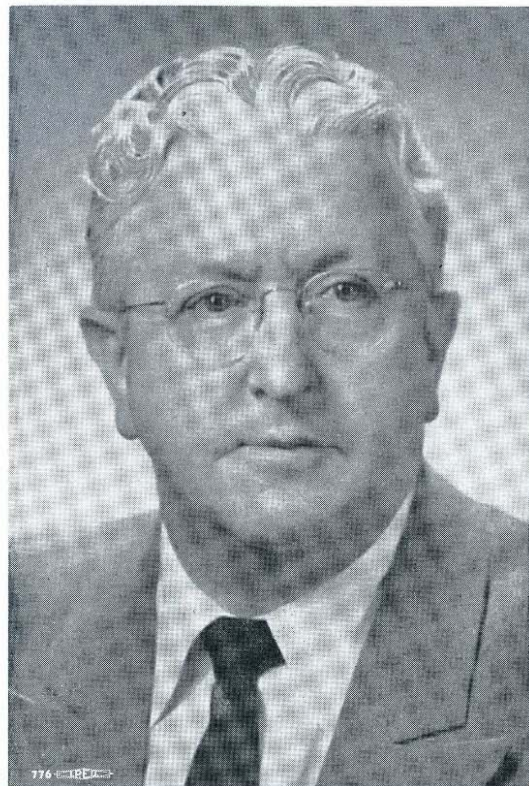
FRANCIS X. COTTER
Fire Commissioner



JOHN V. STAPLETON
Chief of Department



JOSEPH F. SULLIVAN
Chief, Boston Protective Department



DR. EDWARD H. HOMMEL
Medical Examiner

1956 ANNUAL BALL COMMITTEES

Honorary Chairman:

Fire Commissioner Francis X. Cotter

Reception Committee:

John P. Brooks (Chairman)
Joseph Flynn
Gerard S. Melia

Ticket Committee:

John M. Burke (Chairman)
Joseph Finneran
Michael J. O'Donnell

Publicity Committee:

Robert Crawford (Chairman)
Joseph L. Hurrie
Henry F. McCormack

Program and Printing Committee:

Emilio Marino (Chairman)
Joseph Dashner
Robert Shaughnessey

Decorating Committee:

Joseph Dashner (Chairman)
Joseph Finneran
Edward Arsenault

Entertainment Committee:

Joseph L. Hurrie (Chairman)
John M. Burke
Robert Crawford
Edward Arsenault

Ticket Sellers and Donations Committee:

John M. Burke (Chairman)
Henry F. McCormack
Joseph L. Hurrie
Joseph Flynn

PROGRAM

- 8:10 P.M. Concert by Boston Fire Department Band
- 8:40 P.M. Marching and Music
by St. Ann's Parish, Neponset, 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. Exhibition by American Legion Junior Drill Team and Gate of Heaven Senior and Junior Cadet Corps — V.F.W. 1955 Champions
Under the direction of Capt. Edward J. Kelley of Boston Public Latin School
- 9:45 P.M. Greetings by President of the Boston Firemen's Relief Fund Joseph L. Hurrie
- 9:50 P.M. Presentation of Walter Scott Medal by His Honor Mayor John B. Hynes
- 9:55 P.M. Presentation of Patrick J. Kennedy Medal by Honorable Francis X. Cotter, Fire Commissioner.
- 10:00 P.M. Presentation of Roll of Merit by John V. Stapleton, Chief of Department
- 10:05 P.M. Presentation of Roll of Merit by John P. Clougherty, Assistant Chief of Department
- 10:10 P.M. Presentation of 40 year Service Buttons by Patrick E. Collins and Leo C. Driscoll Assistant Chiefs of Department
- 10:15 P.M. Presentation of 25 year Service Buttons by Edward N. Montgomery and William A. Terrenzi Assistant Chiefs of Department

PROGRAM

10:15 P.M. Entertainment

1. THE HARRIET HOCTOR DANCERS
"Dancing Puppets"
2. MIKE MONROE
"Comedy Trampoline Act"
3. LEON AND EDNA
"Acrobatic Novelty Act"
4. THE SINGING FIREMAN, JOHN J. GESWELL
5. AL ALDRICH
"The Juggling Fool"
6. THE PRODUCTION DANCERS
7. HELEN VERNON TRIO
"Adagio Dancing Act"
8. DON DENNIS
"Singing Master of Ceremonies"
9. THE ELSTONS
"Roller Skating Whirlwinds"
10. THE HARRIET HOCTOR DANCERS
"The Can-Can"
11. KARLE ROHDEOrchestra — Girl Vocalist

11:15 P.M. to 1:00 A.M. Dancing.

Master of Ceremonies
WILLIAM J. KELLY

Floor Marshal
Fire Capt. CORNELIUS F. FINNEGAN

Cocktail Music by RAE NICHOLS

Show Presented and Produced
by

PAUL JORDAN AGENCY
240 Tremont Street
Boston, Massachusetts
AGVA

BOSTON FIREMEN'S RELIEF FUND
OFFICERS



JOSEPH DASHNER
First Vice-President



JOSEPH G. FINNERAN
Second Vice-President



JOSEPH L. HURRIE
President



HENRY F. MCCORMICK
Secretary



LIEUT. JOHN M. BURKE
Treasurer

BOSTON FIREMEN'S RELIEF FUND
TRUSTEES



EDWARD J. ARSENAULT



MICHAEL J. O'DONNELL



LIEUT. GERARD MELIA



CAPT. ROBERT CRAWFORD



CAPT. JOHN P. BROOKS



CAPT. EMILIO MARINO



ROBERT SHAUGHNESSEY



JOSEPH FLYNN

BOSTON FIREMEN'S MUTUAL RELIEF ASSOCIATION

The following members died in 1955:

HAROLD W. BAILEY, Ex. Lad. 21.....	Jan. 9, 1955
SOLOMON E. AARON, Ex. Eng. 36.....	Jan. 30, 1955
JOHN P. WALSH, Ex. Dist. Chief, Dist. 2.....	Feb. 2, 1955
GEORGE P. SMITH, Ex. Lieut. Eng. 48.....	Feb. 8, 1955
WILLIAM J. MARSHALL, Ex. Capt. Eng. 31.....	Feb. 24, 1955
PATRICK F. McLEAVEY, Ex. Lieut. Lad. 21.....	Mar. 1, 1955
ROMEO L. COLLETTI, Ex. Eng. 17.....	Mar. 2, 1955
WILLIAM F. HELDT, Ex. Capt. Eng. 30.....	Mar. 4, 1955
RUPERT E. HUTCHINSON, Ex. Eng. 52.....	Mar. 7, 1955
WILLIAM O. CHESWELL, Ex. Lad. 1.....	Mar. 7, 1955
PHILIP P. LEAHY, Ex. Capt. Eng. 30.....	Mar. 17, 1955
JOHN M. HARRINGTON, Ex. Capt. Eng. 30.....	Mar. 23, 1955
JAMES J. KELLEHER, Ex. Dist. Chief Dist. 5.....	Mar. 29, 1955
FRANCIS A. REGAN, Ex. Eng. 34.....	Mar. 31, 1955
LOUIS FERRARI, Ex. Tower Co. 2.....	Apr. 19, 1955
CHRISTOPHER J. HARRIS, Ex. Lad. 30.....	Apr. 27, 1955
JAMES H. McMINN, Ex. Eng. 45.....	Apr. 30, 1955
ROBERT E. KEANE, Ex. Maint. Div.....	May 3, 1955
LEONARD P. FRANCIS, Ex. Boston Prot. Dept.....	May 18, 1955
FRANCIS A. NICHOLSON, Ex. Capt. Hdqrs.....	June 8, 1955
WILLIAM H. MALLORY, Ex. Lad. 30.....	June 15, 1955
JOHN J. DRISCOLL, Ex. Eng. 47.....	June 19, 1955
NAPHEEN BOUILLIER, Ex. Chief of Dept.....	June 20, 1955
CLARENCE T. MURPHY, Ex. Eng. 44.....	June 23, 1955
FRANK A. HOAR, Ex. App. Oper. Eng. 48.....	July 3, 1955
ROBERT J. QUINN, Ex. Eng. 18.....	July 5, 1955
JOHN J. RYAN, Ex. Eng. 38-39.....	July 9, 1955
LAWRENCE J. QUINN, Ex. Maint. Div.....	July 25, 1955
JOHN P. CREEDON, Ex. Eng. 49.....	July 26, 1955
JEREMIAH J. CRONIN, Ex. Hdqrs.....	July 26, 1955
CORNELIUS J. TOOMEY, Ex. Eng. 1.....	Aug. 11, 1955
NEIL C. PENNY, Eng. 51.....	Aug. 22, 1955
JOSEPH W. GORHAM, Ex. Eng. 46.....	Sept. 13, 1955
WILLIAM GOTTWALD, Ex. Eng. 15.....	Sept. 15, 1955
ROBERT W. WALSH, Eng. 21.....	Oct. 6, 1955
EDWIN I. CLARKE, Ex. High Press.....	Oct. 6, 1955
JOHN F. CONNELLY, Ex. Capt. Prot. Dept.....	Oct. 9, 1955
OWEN W. MURPHY, Ex. Eng. 4.....	Oct. 9, 1955
JOSEPH W. SHEA, Ex. Dist. Chief, Dist. 11.....	Oct. 11, 1955
JOHN A. CARBONE, JR., Ex. Eng. 4.....	Oct. 15, 1955
WILLIAM MCCARTHY, Ex. Chemical 7.....	Nov. 1, 1955
WALTER E. STRUBLE, Ex. Eng. 4.....	Nov. 3, 1955
JOHN A. GUST, Lad. 3.....	Nov. 7, 1955
JAMES J. DRISCOLL, Ex. Lad. 27.....	Nov. 8, 1955
WILLIAM T. McHUGH, Ex. Eng. 34.....	Nov. 19, 1955
MATHEW J. SHANAHAN, Ex. Edg. 53.....	Nov. 22, 1955
CHARLES A. CARDANI, Ex. Eng. 48.....	Nov. 22, 1955
WILLIAM J. McGRATH, Ex. Lieut. Eng. 43.....	Nov. 23, 1955
BERNARD DAVIS, Ex. Boston Prot. Dept.....	Dec. 9, 1955
JACOB SPITZ, Ex. Fire Prev.....	Dec. 12, 1955
PETER J. DUNN, Ex. Capt. Eng. 5.....	Dec. 30, 1955

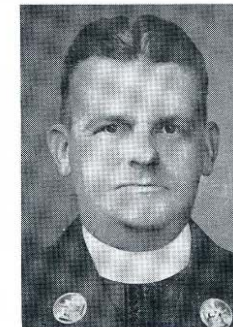
BOSTON FIRE DEPARTMENT CHAPLAINS



Rabbi
SAMUEL I. KORFF



Reverend
JOHN E. BARCLAY



Right Reverend Monsignor
HENRY J. O'CONNELL

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 each 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 predecessors.

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. Whithersoever 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

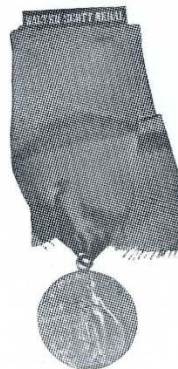
Firefighter ROBERT P. FOLEY
of Engine Co. 43

A still alarm was received at 6:18 A.M. followed by an alarm from Box 7236 at 6:19 A.M. on Sunday, December 25th, 1955. When the apparatus arrived at the scene, the members encountered a fire, extending from the first floor to the upper stories of a 2½ story, frame dwelling house at 28 Middle St., South Boston.



FIREFIGHTER
ROBERT P. FOLEY

Firefighters Francis A. Cady of Ladder Co. 20 and Robert P. Foley of Engine Co. 43 entered the building with a booster line in advance of a 2½ in. line from Engine 43. While operating on the fire, they learned that a young boy was sleeping in an attic bedroom. They passed the booster line to another member, donned gas masks, and started up the stairs. Inasmuch as ventilation had not been completed, the presence of smoke was extremely heavy and the excessive heat started to burn the exposed parts of their hands, necks, and ears. With firm determination, they continued to make their way up the stairs to the attic. They searched the two rooms and found the unconscious body of a young boy in a bed. They removed him from the bed, carried him out of the room and down the stairs to the street. He was removed to the Boston City Hospital in a Police Ambulance.



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

Firefighter Foley was highly commended by the Fire Commissioner in General Orders No. 4, series of 1956, for his heroism. Because of his heroic action, under very trying conditions, and the extreme personal risk undertaken, the Board of Merit recommends that Firefighter Robert P. Foley, be awarded the "Walter Scott Medal for Valor".

PATRICK J. KENNEDY MEDAL

Firefighter FRANCIS A. CADY
of Ladder Co. 20

A still alarm was received at 6:18 A.M. followed by an alarm from Box 7236 at 6:19 A.M. on Sunday, December 25th, 1955. When the apparatus arrived at the scene, the members encountered a fire, extending from the first floor to the upper stories of a 2½ story, frame dwelling house at 28 Middle St., South Boston

Firefighters Francis A. Cady of Ladder Co. 20 and Robert P. Foley of Engine Co. 43 entered the building with a booster line in advance of a 2½ in. line from Engine 43. While operating on the fire, they learned that a young boy was sleeping in an attic bedroom. They passed the booster line to another member, donned gas masks, and started up the stairs. Inasmuch as ventilation had not been completed, the presence of smoke was extremely heavy and the excessive heat started to burn the exposed parts of their hands, necks, and ears. With firm determination, they continued to make their way up the stairs to the attic. They searched the two rooms and found the unconscious body of a young boy in a bed. They removed him from the bed, carried him out of the room and down the stairs to the street. He was removed to the Boston City Hospital in a Police Ambulance. Firefighter Cady suffered a painful injury to his right ankle when he slipped on the stairs during rescue operation which required his going on injured leave.



FIREFIGHTER
FRANCIS A. CADY



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

Firefighter Cady was highly commended by the Fire Commissioner in General Order No. 4, series of 1956, for his heroism. Because of his heroic action, under very trying conditions, and the extreme personal risk undertaken, the Board of Merit recommends that Firefighter Francis A. Cady be awarded the "Patrick J. Kennedy Medal of Honor".

ROLL OF MERIT

Firefighter WILLIAM E. PERO of Ladder Co. 3

The apparatus responded to an alarm from Box 2217 at 5:34 P.M., on December 24, 1955, followed by a second alarm at 5:41 P.M. Upon arrival, it was found that a three family wooden dwelling house at 5 Comet Place, South End, was involved in fire. Smoke and fire were issuing from the first floor windows and doorway. People on the street were shouting that a man was trapped in the first floor.

Firefighter William E. Pero of Ladder Co. 3, who was off duty at the time, and was in quarters when the alarm sounded, responded with Engine 3. He immediately went to the rear of the building and entered through a first floor window. The heat was unbearable and the room heavily charged with smoke and gases. Firefighter Pero groped his way about the room and came upon the unconscious form of a man on the floor. He lifted and dragged him across the floor to the window where he was assisted by another member in removing him to the street. Members of Ladder Co. 12 operated their resuscitator on the victim and he was removed to the Boston City Hospital in a Police Ambulance. Firefighter Pero effected this rescue without the benefit of a gas mask.

Firefighter Pero was highly commended by the Fire Commissioner in General Orders No. 4, series of 1956, for his courageous action which undoubtedly saved the victim's life. Because of his quick and determined action, and the great personal risk involved, the Board of Merit recommends that the name of Firefighter William E. Pero be placed on the "Roll of Merit".

ROLL OF MERIT

Firefighter WARREN F. HALL of Engine Co. 28

An alarm was received from Box 2517 at twelve minutes after 1:00 A.M. on the morning of December 4, 1955. Engine 28, Engine Squad 53, Ladder Cos. 10, 30 and the District Fire Chief responded and found a two family dwelling house at 5-7 St. Rose Street, Jamaica Plain, involved in fire.

Members of the Department were informed by people in the street that a woman was trapped on the second floor. Immediately, Firefighter Warren F. Hall of Engine Co. 28 entered the building, in advance of the line, ascended the stairs to the second floor and made his way to a bedroom in the front of the building. This room was afire; nevertheless, Firefighter Hall, in spite of intense heat and smoke, made his way into the room. He found an unconscious woman on the floor, lifted and carried her out of the room, along the hallway to the head of the stairs, where he was assisted by members of Ladder Co. 10 in removing her to the street. The members of Engine Squad 53 gave the victim first aid. She was removed to the Boston City Hospital in a Police Ambulance. Prior to the arrival of the apparatus, a passerby attempted to enter the building and rescue the victim but was overcome by the intense heat and inhalation of smoke. He was given first aid by members of Engine Squad 53 and removed in a Police Ambulance to the Boston City Hospital.

Firefighter Hall was highly commended in General Orders No. 65, series of 1955, for his courageous action under adverse conditions. Because of his prompt action, with a total disregard for his own safety, the Board of Merit recommends that the name of Firefighter Warren F. Hall be placed on the "Roll of Merit".

1956 SERVICE BUTTON LIST FIRE DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL WHO HAVE COMPLETED 40 YEARS OF SERVICE

HIGH PRESSURE SERVICE

Mathew J. Oskinis.....F.F.-Engr.-in-Charge
Peter J. Connelly.....F.F.-Asst. Engr.-in-Charge

FIRE DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL WHO HAVE COMPLETED TWENTY-FIVE YEARS OF SERVICE

FIRE FIGHTING FORCE

Dist. Fire Chief Charles D. Travis.....District 10
Fire Captain John J. Fitzgerald.....Ladder Co. 19
Fire Fighter Everett A. Flaherty.....Ladder Co. 26
Fire Captain Michael R. Allen.....Engine Co. 24

FIRE ALARM CONST.

Julius W. Boris.....Senior Storekeeper

FIRE PREVENTION DIV.

Joseph R. O'Donnell.....Fire Fighter

MAINTENANCE DIV.

Peter Doherty.....Motor Equipment Rprmn.
Joseph L. Hughes.....Engineer-Motor Squad
Harry C. Lambrecht.....Working Foreman-F. A. Rep.

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-seven 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 doctors' 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-Seventh 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.

