

75. (a) At 4:59 A. M., Saturday, February 10, 1917, Hotel Lenox, Boylston and Exeter streets, was the scene of a five alarm fire, box 1573. The hotel is eleven stories high and many guests were being accomodated at the time. This was one of the most serious fires the department was called upon to contend with last winter, resulting in a loss of approximately \$95,000. Not a life was lost, and this fact stands out prominently as one of the creditable achievements of the department due to the zeal and courage of the men. The morning of February 10th was exceptionally cold, yet this condition did not seem to hamper the men in any way.

(b) The members of the department who responded on the first alarm are commended for the promptness and precision which attended their work of rescue and extinguishment.

(c) Capt. Charles A. Donohoe and Lieut. Dennis J. Bailey of Ladder Co. 15, Lieut. Joseph P. Hanton of Ladder Co. 13, Laddermen John J. Cremin, John F. Lawler, Cornelius J. Sullivan, Frank D. O'Brien, John J. Kennedy, John M. McLaughlin, Edward J. Donelan of Ladder Co. 13, Laddermen William H. Gillis, Frederick J. Dobbratz, Charles A. Wolfe, William J. Shepard, John F. Murphy, Anthony E. Nelson, John J. Cunningham of Ladder Co. 15, and Hoseman John J. Gleason of Engine Co. 33 (detailed to Ladder Co. 13) are highly commended for the bravery, zeal and judgment displayed by them in rescuing persons from the upper floors. By the prompt and judicious use of pompier ladders, above the reach of the 85-foot aerial ladders, it was possible for them to bring many persons to the street and to safety.

(d) Above all the meritorious work of that morning, marked for individual bravery and presence of mind, accompanied by great personal risk, stands the work of Lieut. Edward McDonough, aide to the Chief of Department, and Ladderman John J. Kennedy of Ladder Co. 13.

(e) Lieutenant McDonough climbed through heat and smoke, on the inside of the building, to the tenth floor, and rescued a citizen, John J. Collins, who was trying to get from floor to floor, on the outside of the building, by means of an improvised life-line consisting of bed sheets tied together. According to his own testimony, Mr. Collins was on his way to the ninth floor, holding on to the sheets, in an exhausted condition and ready to "give up", when rescued at the tenth floor by Lieutenant McDonough.

(d) Ladderman John J. Kennedy of Ladder Co. 13 finding that he was unable to reach entrapped guests from the top of the 85-foot ladder, and was unable to use a pompier ladder to ascend higher, owing to the projection of an ornamental cornice, at personal risk, climbed

over and above this cornice to a window on the eighth floor, from whence he lowered Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Finestone with a life-line to members of his company at the top of the 85-foot ladder.

(f) For this remarkable and exceptional manifestation of courage and zeal the names of Lieut. Edward McDonough, aide to the Chief of Department and Ladderman John J. Kennedy of Ladder Co. 13 are hereby placed on the Roll of Merit of the Boston Fire Department.