

MASON CITY
FIRE DEPARTMENT

YEARLY
REPORT

FOR

1951

MASON CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT

YEARLY REPORT

1951

I N D E X

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M A S O N C I T Y F I R E D E P A R T M E N T

F O R T H E Y E A R

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YEARLY REPORT OF THE PAID FIRE DEPARTMENT
OF THE CITY OF MASON CITY, IOWA FOR THE
YEAR ENDING, DECEMBER 31, 1951

To the Honorable Howard E. Bruce,
Mayor,
Mason City, Iowa.

Dear Sir;

I have the honor herewith to submit to you the
YEARLY REPORT OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT for the year ending,
December 31, 1951, this being my first, and the forty second
yearly report of the paid Fire Department of the City of
Mason City, Iowa.

Also being the seventh yearly report under the
Mayor-Council form of City Government.

It will show as far as possible the record of
operations, alarms valuations, insurance and losses on
buildings and contents by fire during the year and my
recommendations for the betterment and improvement of
the Department and fire service and increasing of its
efficiency.

Any information pertaining to the Department
desired by you and not contained herein, will be
supplied on your request.

Respectfully submitted,

A. Boyd Arnold,
Chief of Fire Department.

PERSONNEL OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT
YEAR ENDING, DECEMBER 31st, 1951

| | |
|--------------------------------------|----|
| Chief of Department..... | 1 |
| Chief of Fire Prevention Bureau..... | 1 |
| Captain of Fire Department..... | 2 |
| Lieutenant of Fire Department..... | 5 |
| Firemen First Class..... | 24 |
| Firemen Second Class..... | 0 |
| Firemen Third Class..... | 2 |
| Probationary Firemen..... | 3 |
| Total all grades..... | 38 |

Of the above Personnel, the following
special assignments are made.

| | |
|--|---|
| Fire Alarm Operator, Fireman First Class..... | 2 |
| Fire Alarm Operator, Lieutenant..... | 1 |
| Secretary to Chief, Fireman First Class..... | 1 |
| Relief Fire Alarm Operator & Inspector, Fireman 1st Class..... | 1 |

| NAME & RANK | DATE OF APPOINTMENT TO DEPARTMENT | TO RANK |
|--|--------------------------------------|-------------------|
| CHIEF | | |
| Arnold, A.Boyd..... | July 1,1928 | June 4,1951 |
| CHIEF OF FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU | | |
| Sweeney,Vern E..... | October 5,1920 | July 16,1951 |
| CAPTAINS | | |
| Keenan, Thomas M..... | July 5,1928 | January 1,1932 |
| Pierce, Clifford J..... | May 18,1928..... | June 16,1944 |
| LIEUTENANTS | | |
| Cunningham, John K..... | January 20,1931..... | March 14,1936 |
| Hutchison,Harold H..... | June 1,1929..... | September 1,1939 |
| Hesse, Frank A..... | August 1,1930..... | September 1,1939 |
| Faktor,Martin J..... | September1,1929..... | June 16,1944 |
| Moore, Fred E..... | October 16,1937..... | August 1,1946 |
| FIREMAN FIRST CLASS | | |
| Fields, Douglas C..... | September1,1931..... | March 1,1933 |
| Grelk, Fred O..... | May 1,1933..... | February 1,1938 |
| McGrath,William P..... | November 8,1934..... | September 1,1938 |
| Arnold, Lynn A..... | August 1,1935..... | September 16,1938 |
| Hesse, Alfred B..... | March 14,1936..... | May 16,1939 |
| Powers, Leo M..... | December 1,1936..... | February 16,1940 |
| Lauen, Marvin A..... | September1,1939..... | September 1,1942 |
| Carroll, Jesse J..... | September1,1939..... | September 1,1942 |
| Gardinier, Lyle E..... | September1,1939..... | September 1,1942 |
| Schurtz, Harold E..... | September1,1939..... | September 1,1942 |
| Fritz, Elmer J..... | September1,1939..... | February 1,1943 |
| Waller,Ray D..... | January 10,1940..... | January 10,1943 |
| Berry, Walter M..... | February 1,1943..... | April 16,1946 |
| Cunningham,Warren H..... | June 26,1945..... | December 26,1947 |
| Lauer, Vincent A..... | July 3,1945..... | January 3,1948 |
| Dosen, Mike M..... | September9,1945..... | March 8,1948 |
| Faktor, Ted L..... | April 16,1946..... | October 15,1948 |
| Marsh, Harold R..... | April 23,1946..... | October 22,1948 |
| Holt, John H..... | July 18,1946..... | January 18,1949 |
| McDougle, Dwaine O..... | July 19,1946..... | January 19,1949 |
| Allen, Dan N..... | November19,1946..... | May 18,1949 |
| Rice, Louis V. Jr..... | January 1,1947..... | July 1,1949 |
| Blunt,Richard R..... | March 20,1948..... | September 20,1950 |
| VerHelst,William H..... | March 16,1949..... | September 20,1951 |
| FIREMAN THIRD CLASS | | |
| Van Horn, Ronald L..... | August 1,1950..... | February 1,1951 |
| Bender, John H..... | June 1,1951..... | December 1,1951 |
| PROBATIONARY FIREMAN | | |
| Gerdes, Marvin A..... | July 16,1951..... | July 16,1951 |
| Luecht, Ralph R..... | November 1,1951..... | November 1,1951 |
| Pearson, Richard L..... | November 1,1951..... | November 1,1951 |
| FIRE ALARM OPERATORS | | |
| Lieutenant, Martin J.Faktor..... | | July 6,1946 |
| Fireman First Class William P.McGrath..... | | February 8,1946 |
| Fireman First Class Dan N.Allen..... | | September 1,1951 |
| FIRE ALARM OPERATOR & INSPECTOR | | |
| Fireman First Class, Harold E.Schurtz..... | | July 30,1951 |
| SECRETARY TO CHIEF | | |
| Fireman First Class, Ray D.Waller..... | | August 1,1946 |

F I R E D E P A R T M E N T R O S T E R
Y E A R - 1 9 5 1

| <u>NAME & TITLE</u> | <u>ADDRESS</u> | <u>TELEPHONE NUMBER</u> |
|--|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| CHIEF | | |
| A.Boyd Arnold..... | 641 South Georgia Avenue..... | 3222 W |
| CHIEF OF FIRE PREVENTION | | |
| Vern E.Sweeney..... | 1824 South Federal Avenue..... | 2036 |
| FIRE ALARM OPERATORS | | |
| Martin J.Faktor..... | 220½ 1st Street South West..... | 4035 |
| William P.McGrath..... | 432-1st Street South East..... | 2384 |
| Dan N.Allen..... | 2253 21st Street South West..... | 4939 J |
| FIRE ALARM OPERATOR & INSPECTOR | | |
| Harold E.Schurtz..... | 2514 South Federal Avenue..... | 3915 W |
| CAPTAINS | | |
| Thomas M.Keenan..... | 1943 North Carolina Avenue..... | 2950 |
| Clifford J.Pierce..... | 234 6th Street South East..... | 1575 W |
| LIEUTENANTS | | |
| John K.Cunningham..... | 670 9th Street South East..... | 2569 W |
| Harold H.Hutchison..... | 803 North Jackson Avenue..... | 4129 W |
| Frank A.Hesse..... | 1320 South Pennsylvania Avenue..... | 3672 J |
| Fred E.Moore..... | 540 7th Street South East..... | 2492 W |
| FIREMAN FIRST CLASS | | |
| Douglas C. Fields..... | 524 21st Street South East..... | 2054 J |
| Fred O.Grelk..... | 827 9th Street North East..... | 4665 |
| Lynn A.Arnold..... | 915 North Harrison Avenue..... | 3338 |
| Alfred B.Hesse..... | 538 East State Street..... | 2094 |
| Leo M. Powers..... | 1504 South Kentucky Avenue..... | 5060 W |
| Marvin A.Lauen..... | 209 North Connecticut Avenue..... | 4835 W |
| Jesse J.Carroll..... | 1304 South Georgia Avenue..... | 6210 W |
| Lyle E.Gardinier..... | 2404 South Madison Avenue..... | 3862 J |
| Elmer J.Fritz..... | 1441 North President Avenue..... | 2403 W |
| Ray D.Waller..... | 705 9th Street North West..... | 4371 W |
| Walter M.Berry..... | 821 8th Street South East..... | 2527 R |
| Warren H.Cunningham.... | 419-9th Street South East..... | 5450 W |
| Vincent A.Lauer..... | 201 South Virginia Avenue..... | 5507 R |
| Mike M.Dosen..... | 720 South Polk Place..... | 5051 J |
| Ted L.Faktor..... | 1053 East State Street..... | 4007 J |
| Harold R.Marsh..... | 616 South Adams Avenue..... | 1623 M |
| John H.Holt..... | 205 28th Street South West..... | 4218 W |
| Dwaine O.McDougle..... | 517 13th Street South East..... | 5827 R |
| Louis V.Rice, Jr..... | 512 14th Street North West..... | 5390 W |
| Richard R.Blunt..... | 821 South Carolina Place..... | 2569 J |
| William H.VerHelst..... | 223 West State Street..... | 6150 M |
| FIREMAN THIRD CLASS | | |
| Ronald L.Van Horn..... | 520 21st Street South East..... | 5641 W |
| John H.Bender..... | 237-7th Street South East..... | 6188 M |
| PROBATIONARY FIREMAN | | |
| Marvin A.Gerdes..... | 1324 South Carolina Avenue..... | 5827 M |
| Ralph R.Luecht..... | 670-9th Street South East..... | 6024 J |
| Richard L. Pearson..... | 609 North Delaware Avenue..... | 4737 J |

MASON CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL SERVICE TO DECEMBER 31st, 1951

| RANK | NAME | DATE OF ENTRY | TOTAL SERVICE TO DECEMBER 31st 1951 | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------------|----------|--------|
| CHIEF | A. Boyd Arnold | July 1st, 1928 | 23 Years | 6 Months | 0 Days |
| CHIEF OF FIRE PREVENTION | Vern E. Sweeney | October 5th, 1920 | 12 " | 2 " | 26 " |
| | Called back to duty | September 1, 1937 | 14 " | 4 " | 0 " |
| | Vern E. Sweeney | Total Time | 26 " | 6 " | 26 " |
| CAPTAIN | Thomas M. Keenan | July 5th, 1928 | 23 " | 5 " | 26 " |
| CAPTAIN | Clifford J. Pierce | May 18th, 1928 | 23 " | 7 " | 13 " |
| LIEUTENANT | John K. Cunningham | January 20th, 1931 | 20 " | 11 " | 11 " |
| LIEUTENANT | Harold H. Hutchison | June 1st, 1929 | 22 " | 7 " | 0 " |
| LIEUTENANT | Frank A. Hesse | August 1st, 1930 | 21 " | 5 " | 0 " |
| LIEUTENANT | Fred E. Moore | October 16th, 1937 | 14 " | 2 " | 15 " |
| LIEUTENANT | Martin J. Fakter | September 1, 1929 | 22 " | 4 " | 0 " |
| FIREMAN FIRST CLASS | Douglas G. Fields | September 1, 1931 | 20 " | 4 " | 0 " |
| FIREMAN FIRST CLASS | Fred O. Greik | May 1st, 1933 | 18 " | 8 " | 0 " |
| FIREMAN FIRST CLASS | William P. McGrath | November 8th, 1934 | 17 " | 1 " | 23 " |
| FIREMAN FIRST CLASS | Lynn A. Arnold | August 1st, 1935 | 16 " | 5 " | 0 " |
| FIREMAN FIRST CLASS | Alfred B. Hesse | April 13th, 1936 | 15 " | 8 " | 18 " |
| FIREMAN FIRST CLASS | Leo M. Powers | December 1st, 1936 | 15 " | 1 " | 0 " |
| FIREMAN FIRST CLASS | Marvin A. Lauch | September 1, 1939 | 12 " | 4 " | 0 " |
| FIREMAN FIRST CLASS | Jesse J. Carroll | September 1, 1939 | 12 " | 4 " | 0 " |
| FIREMAN FIRST CLASS | Lyle E. Gardinier | September 1, 1939 | 12 " | 4 " | 0 " |
| FIREMAN FIRST CLASS | Harold E. Schurtz | September 1, 1939 | 12 " | 4 " | 0 " |
| FIREMAN FIRST CLASS | Elmer J. Fritz | September 1, 1939 | 12 " | 4 " | 0 " |
| FIREMAN FIRST CLASS | Ray D. Waller | January 10th, 1940 | 11 " | 11 " | 21 " |
| FIREMAN FIRST CLASS | Walter M. Berry | April 16th, 1946 | 5 " | 8 " | 15 " |
| FIREMAN FIRST CLASS | Warren H. Cunningham | April 16th, 1946 | 5 " | 8 " | 15 " |
| FIREMAN FIRST CLASS | Vincent A. Lauer | April 16th, 1946 | 5 " | 8 " | 15 " |
| FIREMAN FIRST CLASS | Mike M. Dosh | April 16th, 1946 | 5 " | 8 " | 15 " |
| FIREMAN FIRST CLASS | Ted L. Fakter | June 1st, 1946 | 5 " | 7 " | 0 " |
| FIREMAN FIRST CLASS | Harold R. Marsh | June 1st, 1946 | 5 " | 7 " | 0 " |
| FIREMAN FIRST CLASS | John H. Holt | July 18th, 1946 | 5 " | 6 " | 13 " |
| FIREMAN FIRST CLASS | Dwaine O. McDougle | July 19th, 1946 | 5 " | 6 " | 12 " |
| FIREMAN FIRST CLASS | Dan W. Allen | November 19, 1946 | 5 " | 1 " | 12 " |
| FIREMAN FIRST CLASS | Louis V. Rice, Jr. | January 1st, 1947 | 5 " | 0 " | 0 " |
| FIREMAN FIRST CLASS | Richard R. Blunt | March 20th, 1948 | 3 " | 9 " | 11 " |

PERSONNEL SERVICE TO DECEMBER 31st, 1951
continued

| RANK | NAME | DATE OF ENTRY | | TOTAL SERVICE TO DECEMBER 31, 1951 | | |
|----------------------|---------------------|---------------|------------|------------------------------------|----------|---------|
| FIREMAN FIRST CLASS | William H. VerHelst | March | 16th, 1949 | 2 Years | 9 Months | 15 Days |
| FIREMAN THIRD CLASS | Ronald L. Van Horn | August | 1st, 1950 | 1 " | 5 " | 0 " |
| FIREMAN THIRD CLASS | John H. Bender | June | 1st, 1951 | 0 " | 7 " | 0 " |
| PROBATIONARY FIREMAN | Marvin A. Gerdes | July | 16th, 1951 | 0 " | 5 " | 15 " |
| PROBATIONARY FIREMAN | Ralph R. Luscht | November | 1st, 1951 | 0 " | 2 " | 0 " |
| PROBATIONARY FIREMAN | Richard L. Pearson | November | 1st, 1951 | 0 " | 2 " | 0 " |

MEMBERSHIP ON PENSION AND RETIREMENT LIST

| DATE OF PENSION | RANK | NAME | AMOUNT OF PENSION |
|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| April 24th, 1929 | Fireman First Class | Raymond Goudreau | \$ 67.50 Per Month |
| February 18, 1943 | Lieutenant | Earl W. Barker | \$ 80.00 " " |
| March 1st, 1943 | Fireman First Class | August C. May | \$ 75.00 " " |
| December 4th, 1943 | Chief | Daniel H. Shire | \$135.00 " " |
| July 1st, 1946 | Lieutenant | Lester I. Dutcher | \$ 96.25 " " |
| August 1st, 1950 | Fireman First Class | Leo D. King | \$116.25 " " |
| April 1st, 1951 | Chief | James Kelley | \$197.25 " " |

MASON CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT

Howard E. Bruce
MAYOR

A. Boyd Arnold
CHIEF OF DEPARTMENT

Harold E. Schurtz.
RELIEF ALARM OPERATOR & INSPECTOR

Vern E. Sweeney
CHIEF OF FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU

FIRE ALARM OPERATORS
William P. McGrath Dan N. Allen

Martin J. Faktor

HEADQUARTERS

FIRST BATTALION

SECOND BATTALION

SALVAGE Co. No. 1

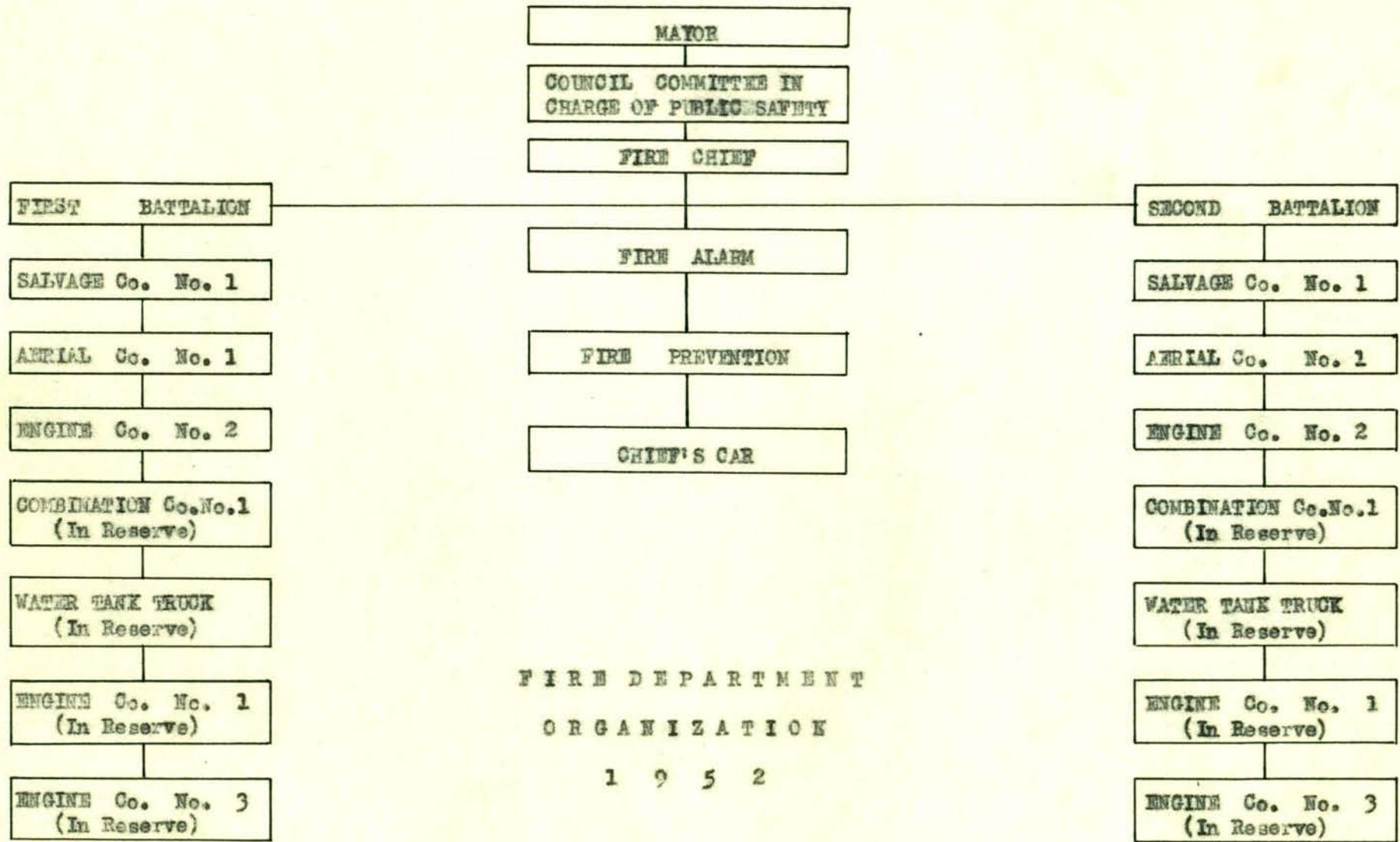
| | | |
|--------------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| Fred E. Moore..... | Lieutenant..... | John K. Cunningham |
| Harold R. Marsh | Driver | Ray D. Waller |
| Ronald L. VanHorn | Salvage man..... | Vincent A. Lauer |
| Richard L. Pearson | Salvage man..... | Ralph R. Luecht |

AERIAL Co. No. 1

| | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| Clifford J. Pierce..... | Captain | Thomas M. Keenan |
| Leo M. Powers..... | Driver | Lynn A. Arnold |
| Jesse J. Carroll..... | Ladder man No. 1 | Fred O. Grek |
| Elmer J. Fritz..... | Ladder man No. 2 | John H. Holt |
| Walter M. Berry..... | Ladder man No. 3 | Richard R. Blunt |
| Marvin A. Gerdes..... | Ladder man No. 4 | Dwaine O. McDougle |
| Marvin A. Lauen..... | Ladder man No. 5 | William H. VerHelst |
| Ted L. Faktor..... | Plug man | John H. Bender |

ENGINE CO. No. 2

| | | |
|---------------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Harold H. Hutchison..... | Lieutenant | Frank A. Hesse |
| Lyle E. Gardinier..... | Driver..... | Alfred B. Hesse |
| Warren H. Cunningham..... | Plug man..... | Douglas C. Fields |
| Mike M. Dosen..... | Pipeman..... | Louis V. Rice |



FIRE DEPARTMENT
ORGANIZATION

1 9 5 2

MASON CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT YEARLY REPORT
 FOR the Year ending, December 31st, 1951
 ACTIVITIES OF THE FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU

The Fire Prevention Bureau was organized on September 1, 1937 with Fire inspector Vern E. Sweeney. He has carried on the duties of Inspector in the Bureau since its organization. On July 16th, 1951 Vern E. Sweeney was made Chief of the Bureau. Fireman First Class Harold E. Schurts was assigned in 1951 to help out Chief Sweeney with his many duties. Chief Sweeney has full responsibility and charge of the Bureau under Chief Arnold. Under his direction there were 3100 building inspections, 185 special inspections and 312 Salvage Inspections made. The Fire Prevention Bureau spent considerable time giving Fire Prevention talks, to Schools, Industrial plants, Business establishments and Clubs. They also made the Public Fire Minded with their talks over the Radio Stations and through articles published in the daily paper. The Bureau cooperated with the State Fire Marshals office and all City Departments.

| | |
|--------------------------|------|
| Bureau Inspections..... | 1657 |
| Special inspections..... | 184 |

| Department Inspections | Fire | Salvage. |
|---------------------------------|------|-----------|
| Probationary Firemen..... | | 12 |
| Fireman 3rd Class..... | 30 | 34 |
| Fireman 2nd Class..... | 56 | |
| Fireman 1st Class..... | 1032 | 119 |
| Officer..... | 105 | 91 |
| Special..... | 1 | |
| Total inspections made..... | | 3,597 |

PERMITS ISSUED BY BUREAU

| | |
|---------------------------|-------|
| Burning permits..... | 1,575 |
| Occupational permits..... | 24 |

COMPLAINTS REFERRED TO:

| | |
|--|--------|
| Building Department..... | 17 |
| Electrical Department..... | 18 |
| Sanitary Department..... | 5 |
| Police Department..... | 1 |
| P.G. & E..... | 1 |
| Written notices served..... | 10 |
| Verbal notices..... | 58 |
| Compliance with correction orders..... | 58 |

ACTIVITIES OF THE FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU

Continued

Kind of buildings inspected during year 1951 by Bureau

| | |
|---|-----|
| Commercial building inspections..... | 747 |
| Industrial inspections..... | 32 |
| Warehouse inspections..... | 33 |
| Wholesale houses inspected..... | 61 |
| Apartment houses..... | 119 |
| Hotel inspections..... | 47 |
| Hospital inspections..... | 7 |
| Nursing home inspections..... | 62 |
| School inspections..... | 67 |
| Church inspections..... | 33 |
| Theatre inspections..... | 32 |
| Fire Escape inspections..... | 14 |
| Gasoline and oil bulk plant inspections..... | 74 |
| Gasoline and Fuel tank installations..... | 2 |
| Gasoline transport & delivery trucks inspected..... | 2 |
| Miscellaneous..... | 509 |

CONDITIONS FOUND

| | | Removed |
|---|----------|---------|
| Waste material in access..... | 123 | 118 |
| Rubbish and junk found..... | 113 | 106 |
| Baled paper in access..... | 13 | 12 |
| Garbage conditions found..... | 16 | 16 |
| Oily mops & rags found..... | 12 | 12 |
| Ashes in combustible containers..... | 4 | 4 |
| Flammable decorations found..... | 12 | 12 |
| Flammable liquids found in violation..... | 6 | 6 |
| Xmas Trees found in violation..... | 6 | 6 |

OBSTRUCTIONS FOUND

| | | |
|---|-------|-----------|
| Fire Escapes..... | 5 .. | Removed |
| Hallways..... | 25 .. | " |
| Exit doors obstructed..... | 3 .. | " |
| Fire doors obstructed and out of order..... | 6 .. | " |
| Sprinkler systems obstructed..... | 8 .. | " |
| Exit lights found out of order..... | 12 | corrected |
| Exit doors found locked..... | 3 | " |
| Bad electric wiring found..... | 19 | |
| Bad drop cord wiring..... | 18 | |
| Drop cords over nails & metal..... | 32 | |

BUREAU SPECIAL DETAIL

| | |
|---|-------|
| Fire Prevention posters distributed..... | 100 |
| Inspection blanks etc. to Schools..... | 3,600 |
| Total hours of public detail..... | 20 |
| Fire drills put on at schools Fire Prevention Week..... | 16 |
| Nursing homes inspected Fire Prevention Week..... | 9 |

F I R E O P E R A T I O N R E P O R T

FOR YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31st, 1951

| | |
|--|-----|
| Alarms received verbal..... | 19 |
| Alarms received police..... | 23 |
| Alarms received ADT box..... | 1 |
| Alarms received Sprinklers..... | 9 |
| Alarms received Telephone 60 & 61..... | 128 |
| Alarms received Telephone 135..... | 215 |
| Alarms received False..... | 0 |
| Alarms received A.M. | 132 |
| Alarms received P.M. | 263 |

| | |
|--|---------------|
| Miles traveled to Fire Alarms..... | 778.1 |
| Hours worked at alarms..... | 208:44 |
| Number of firemen operating at alarms..... | 2,235 |
| Number of times pumps operated for booster..... | 74 |
| Number of times pumps operated for hose lines..... | 5 |
| 3 inch hose used..... | Feet 650 |
| 2½ inch hose used..... | Feet 1,650 |
| 1½ inch hose used..... | Feet 1,950 |
| Booster hose used..... | Feet 15,000 |
| Booster tanks used..... | Gallon 13,325 |
| Hand pumps used..... | Gallon 207.5 |
| Ladders used..... | Feet 1,357 |
| Hydrants used..... | 12 |
| Light generator used..... | 6 |
| Smoke ejector used..... | 58 |
| 250 Watt portable home lite used with generator..... | 4 |
| 500 Watt portable home lite used with generator..... | 5 |
| Life boat used..... | 13 |
| E & J Resuscitator and Inhalator used..... | 6 |
| Burrell All-Service Gas Masks used..... | 1 |
| McCAA Oxygen Masks used..... | 3 |
| Fires out on arrival..... | 24 |

FIRE OCCURRED

| | |
|---|-----|
| In brick and stone buildings..... | 28 |
| In stucco and brick veneer buildings..... | 2 |
| In iron clad buildings..... | 3 |
| In frame buildings..... | 43 |
| In concrete block buildings..... | 1 |
| In automobile and trucks..... | 43 |
| Other than building fires..... | 47 |
| Total number of fires..... | 167 |

EXTENT OF FIRES

| | |
|----------------------------------|-----|
| Confined to point of origin..... | 157 |
| Confined to Room of origin..... | 2 |
| Confined to floor of origin..... | 1 |
| Confined to Building..... | 7 |

FIRE OPERATION REPORT CONTINUED

VALUES AND LOSSES

Total Value of the buildings involved by fire.....\$ 1,862,459.00
 Total Value of the contents involved by fire..... 504,450.00
 Total Value of all property involved by fire.....\$ 2,366,909.00

Total Insurance on buildings involved by fire.....\$ 1,431,692.00
 Total Insurance on contents involved by fire..... 384,400.00
 Total Insurance on property involved by fire.....\$ 2,366,909.00

Total Insurance loss on buildings.....\$ 9,378.65
 Total Insurance loss on contents..... 3,397.29
 Total Insurance loss for year 1951.....\$ 12,775.94

Total loss insured and uninsured on buildings.....\$ 9,864.09
 Total loss insured and uninsured on contents..... 3,782.29
 Total loss insured and uninsured for year 1951.....\$ 13,646.38

LOSS PER FIRE

No Loss.....95
 Less than \$ 5.00 2
 Less than \$ 100.00 42
 Less than \$ 500.00 20
 Less than \$ 1,000.00 6
 Less than \$ 5,000.00 2

PERSONS KILLED & INJURED
 Due to fire
 1951

Firemen killed during the Year..... 0
 Firemen injured during the Year..... 10
 Civilians killed during the Year..... 0
 Civilians injured during the Year..... 7

SALVAGE WORK

At fires.....151
 Salvage Covers Spread..... 13
 Other than Fires.....160
 Salvage Covers Spread..... 8

COMPARISON OF LOSSES

Loss for 1950.....\$ 126,226.10
 Loss for 1951.....\$ 13,646.38

CAUSES OF FIRES

YEAR

1951

| | |
|---|----|
| Anti-Freeze on hot motor..... | 7 |
| Backfire through carburetor..... | 5 |
| Battery cable shorted..... | 4 |
| Bonfire unattended..... | 1 |
| Brakes on wheel dragging..... | 1 |
| Burning rubbish no permit..... | 2 |
| Cigarette..... | 24 |
| Chimney burning out..... | 7 |
| Child playing with matches..... | 1 |
| Children playing with street flare..... | 1 |
| Cord on toaster shorted..... | 1 |
| Cutting torch set fire to grease..... | 1 |
| Defective Chimney..... | 2 |
| Defective insulation around stovepipe..... | 1 |
| Defective light fixture..... | 1 |
| Dump fire..... | 1 |
| Electric toaster left on..... | 1 |
| Emergency brake stuck..... | 2 |
| Fire from dump fire..... | 2 |
| Fire from incinerator..... | 1 |
| Fire in smokehouse set fire to creosoted rafters..... | 1 |
| Flame from blow torch..... | 1 |
| Flame from burner on gas stove..... | 1 |
| Flame from cutting torch..... | 2 |
| Flame from rubbish fire..... | 1 |
| Flame from street flare..... | 1 |
| Flame from torch set fire to tar..... | 1 |
| Flame from weed burner..... | 1 |
| Flame from welding torch..... | 1 |
| Flooded carburetor..... | 2 |
| Flooded oil heater..... | 1 |
| Friction on belt of compressor..... | 1 |
| Gasoline ignited by hot water heater..... | 1 |
| Gasoline leaking on hot motor..... | 1 |
| Handle on coffee pot in oven caught fire..... | 1 |
| Heat from electric light bulb..... | 1 |
| Hot clinkers..... | 2 |
| Insulation board on top of furnace caught fire..... | 1 |
| Jack-O-Lantern..... | 1 |
| Lint in hot air register..... | 1 |
| Neon sign shorted..... | 2 |
| Oil around steam turbine..... | 1 |
| Oil heater flared up..... | 1 |
| Overheated gas floor furnace..... | 2 |
| Overheated motor..... | 1 |
| Overheated smokepipe..... | 1 |
| Overload on electric circuit..... | 1 |
| Rubbish in floor register caught fire..... | 1 |
| Rubbish fire out of control..... | 4 |
| Short in wiring..... | 16 |
| Smokepipe burning out..... | 1 |
| Smokepipe too close to studding..... | 1 |
| Smoking in bed..... | 3 |

CAUSES OF FIRES CONTINUED

| | |
|--|----|
| Sparks from Chimney..... | 3 |
| Sparks from incinerator..... | 9 |
| Sparks from motor..... | 1 |
| Sparks from locomotive..... | 3 |
| Sparks from a man's pipe..... | 1 |
| Sparks from rubbish fire..... | 3 |
| Spontaneous Combustion..... | 3 |
| Static spark set fire to gasoline..... | 1 |
| Street flare tipped over in street..... | 1 |
| Unknown..... | 13 |
| Using match for light..... | 2 |
| Wax caught fire on stove..... | 1 |
| Welding rod burned hole in gas tank..... | 1 |

HYDRANTS IN SERVICE 1951

| MAKE | 2 - way | 2-Way and steamer | 4-Way and Steamer |
|----------|---------|----------------------|----------------------|
| CORY | | 1 | |
| IOWA | 1 | 52 | |
| SMITH | | 52 | |
| WATEROUS | | 79 | |
| LUDLOW | 94 | 143 | 35 |

KIND OF PROPERTY FIRE OCCURRED IN
YEAR 1951

| | |
|------------------------------|----|
| Advertising Company..... | 1 |
| Apartment buildings..... | 5 |
| Automobile and trucks..... | 42 |
| Bakery..... | 1 |
| Bus depot & cafe..... | 1 |
| Cafe | 2 |
| Cement plant..... | 1 |
| Chimney Fires..... | 7 |
| Church..... | 1 |
| Clothing store..... | 1 |
| Club..... | 1 |
| Coal shed..... | 3 |
| Drug store..... | 1 |
| Dwelling..... | 35 |
| Electrical repair shop..... | 1 |
| Gasoline fire..... | 1 |
| Gasoline transport..... | 1 |
| Grader..... | 1 |
| Grass, leaves & rubbish..... | 29 |
| Hospital..... | 1 |
| Hotels..... | 2 |
| Insulation..... | 1 |
| Kerosene in street..... | 2 |
| Loader..... | 1 |
| Lodge rooms..... | 1 |
| Office Building..... | 2 |
| Packing plant..... | 1 |
| Play shack..... | 1 |
| Powerhouse..... | 1 |
| Private garage..... | 7 |
| Processing plant..... | 1 |
| Railroad Roundhouse..... | 1 |
| Sand drying house..... | 1 |
| Shop and warehouse..... | 1 |
| Stadium..... | 1 |
| Store Building..... | 1 |
| Street Barricade..... | 1 |
| Tar kettle..... | 1 |
| Telephone pole..... | 3 |
| Warehouse..... | 1 |

EMERGENCY CALLS

- May 15th, 1951 Salvage #1 2:55 PM to 10-3rd Street North West. Hanford Hotel to administer oxygen to Lynn J. Sargent of Waterloo Iowa. 2-Bottles used. Pronounced dead by Dr. Smiley of Heart Attack.
- May 27th, 1951 Engine #2 12:00PM. to Roosevelt Elementary School playground. Chucky Hanson son of Gerald Hanson 1602 South Pennsylvania Avenue. Finger caught in hole in step of playground slide. Step removed and saw used to free finger. Boy and Father taken home by Officer Christensen.
- June 1st, 1951 5:18PM Mrs Al Kirby was found dead in her bath room at 213 27th Street South West. Engine #2, Chief's Car and Salvage #1 responded. Corner was called and said death was due to heart condition.
- June 4th, 1951 Chief's Car and Aerial Company #1 10:52 AM 215 North Adams Avenue. Investigate elderly lady who had not been seen for some time. Had to make forceable entry. Found occupant Mrs Mabel Hepner unconscious in bed. Dr Hunt called. She was taken to Hospital by Patterson-James ambulance.
- June 14th, 1951 Chief's Car, Salvage #1 and Combination #1 to Lehigh Pond 11:20 PM. North of 25th Street North. Kenneth Weir and Curtis Velta of Delaven Minn. Had plunged with car from highway into about 18-feet of water. Kenneth Weir had escaped. Curtis Velta was removed and resuscitator used until he was pronounced dead, by Dr Smiley. He was taken to Colonial Funeral Home. E&J Resuscitator and Artificial Respiration used about 1-hour. 2 Beeline wreckers and Davey Moen Boom Truck used, to get car out of pond.
- June 27th, 1951 9:25 PM Mr Andrew Paulson Engineer at City Water Plant, found on floor of boiler room apparently dead. Used E & J Resuscitator for 5 minutes. He was taken to Park Hospital by Patterson-James Ambulance. Mr Paulson was 58 years old. address 609-4th Street N.E.
- July 5th, 1951 7:20 PM. 521-14th Street South East. Mr. C.E. Oeschger Age 53, found by wife in driveway of home. Mr Oeschger had been trimming trees in his back yard. Dr Darling in attendance. Used resuscitator for about 10 minutes, Pronounced Dead. Body taken to Major Funeral Parlor on request of Mrs Oeschger. Death due to heart attack.
- July 20th, 1951 5:26PM. Chief's Car with Chief Arnold and Lieutenant Fred E. Moore and E. & J. Resuscitator responded to Wayne Coe Farm 1-Mile east and 1 mile south of ~~Portland~~, Iowa. Where Jerry Coe Age 3 Son of Keith Coe was found by his mother submerged in wash tub filled with Water. Chief's Car was met by Coe family south of Milwaukee tracks on river road. Coe car was on way to Drs. Office with boy. Chief Arnold escorted them to Mercy Hospital, while Lieutenant Moore used inhalator on boy in Coe Car. Child was conscious and delivered to hospital in conscious condition.
- Sept. 30th, 1951 7:15PM 116 South Jefferson Avenue. Salvage #1. G.W. Shear Age 84 suffered heart attack playing with children on porch. Oxygen administered by E. & J. as inhalator. Dr George Tice present. Taken to Mercy Hospital by Snell Ambulance Service.

NUMBER OF ALARMS BY MONTH, DAY AND HOUR
FOR YEAR 1951

| Month | Sun. | Mon. | Tues. | Wed. | Thurs. | Fri. | Sat. | Total |
|-------------|------|------|-------|------|--------|------|------|-------|
| January.... | 2 | 10 | 3 | 7 | 0 | 4 | 6 | 32 |
| February... | 6 | 3 | 5 | 6 | 4 | 6 | 2 | 31 |
| March..... | 1 | 0 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 5 | 15 |
| April..... | 6 | 2 | 8 | 7 | 5 | 17 | 5 | 50 |
| May..... | 9 | 1 | 11 | 5 | 4 | 1 | 7 | 38 |
| June..... | 3 | 7 | 11 | 8 | 5 | 7 | 6 | 47 |
| July..... | 2 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 7 | 2 | 6 | 24 |
| August..... | 3 | 3 | 5 | 4 | 2 | 2 | 4 | 23 |
| September.. | 7 | 4 | 2 | 4 | 4 | 5 | 2 | 28 |
| October.... | 1 | 7 | 8 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 3 | 30 |
| November... | 3 | 3 | 7 | 1 | 7 | 6 | 6 | 33 |
| December... | 7 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 11 | 9 | 6 | 43 |
| Total..... | 50 | 46 | 68 | 54 | 53 | 66 | 58 | 395 |

ALARMS OF FIRES BY HOUR

1951

| A.M. | | P.M. | |
|-------------|----------|------------|----------|
| Hour | Alarms | Hour | Alarms |
| 12 - 1 | 9 | 12 - 1 | 17 |
| 1 - 2 | 10 | 1 - 2 | 18 |
| 2 - 3 | 6 | 2 - 3 | 23 |
| 3 - 4 | 7 | 3 - 4 | 18 |
| 4 - 5 | 3 | 4 - 5 | 26 |
| 5 - 6 | 5 | 5 - 6 | 29 |
| 6 - 7 | 10 | 6 - 7 | 24 |
| 7 - 8 | 9 | 7 - 8 | 21 |
| 8 - 9 | 15 | 8 - 9 | 28 |
| 9 - 10 | 15 | 9 - 10 | 30 |
| 10 - 11 | 24 | 10 - 11 | 20 |
| 11 - 12 | 19 | 11 - 12 | 9 |
| Total | A.M. 132 | Total..... | P.M. 263 |

Total Alarms
395

F I R E A L A R M O F F I C E
 R E P O R T
 F O R
 Y E A R E N D I N G , D E C E M B E R 3 1 , 1 9 5 1

A L A R M S

| Month | 8 AM to 4 PM | 4 PM to 12 Mid. | 12 Mid to 8 AM | Total |
|----------------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------|
| January | 14 | 12 | 6..... | 32 |
| February | 13 | 11 | 8 | 32 |
| March | 10 | 3 | 2 | 15 |
| April | 14 | 30 | 6 | 50 |
| May | 15 | 15 | 8 | 38 |
| June | 23 | 17 | 7 | 47 |
| July | 6 | 13 | 5 | 24 |
| August | 9 | 11 | 3 | 23 |
| September..... | 15 | 10 | 3 | 28 |
| October..... | 11 | 15 | 4 | 30 |
| November..... | 12 | 19 | 2 | 33 |
| <u>December.....</u> | <u>12</u> | <u>27</u> | <u>4</u> | <u>43</u> |
| Total..... | 154 | 183 | 58 | 395 |

F I R E A L A R M O P E R A T O R S

* * * * *

William P. McGrath

Dan N. Allen

Martin J. Faktor

ALARMS FIRES AND LOSSES OF EACH BATTALION
 BY MONTH FOR
 YEAR - ENDING, DECEMBER 31, 1951

| ALARMS | FIRST BATTALION FIRES | FIRE LOSS | MONTH | ALARMS | SECOND BATTALION FIRES | FIRE LOSS |
|--------|--------------------------|-------------|-----------|--------|---------------------------|-------------|
| 13 | 6 | \$ 374.52 | January | 19 | 8 | \$ 1,790.55 |
| 22 | 7 | \$ 205.74 | February | 10 | 1 | None |
| 10 | 2 | \$ 195.94 | March | 5 | 2 | \$ 231.18 |
| 17 | 11 | \$ 52.93 | April | 33 | 7 | \$ 224.88 |
| 23 | 7 | \$ 108.17 | May | 15 | 6 | \$ 326.35 |
| 22 | 6 | \$ 58.69 | June | 25 | 12 | \$ 2,322.91 |
| 11 | 4 | \$ 748.50 | July | 13 | 4 | \$ 76.27 |
| 15 | 7 | \$ 16.25 | August | 8 | 5 | \$ 122.40 |
| 15 | 5 | \$ 40.00 | September | 13 | 8 | \$ 155.63 |
| 16 | 10 | \$ 353.25 | October | 14 | 9 | \$ 115.55 |
| 14 | 8 | \$ 1,122.37 | November | 19 | 10 | \$ 1,630.23 |
| 22 | 9 | \$ 2,902.27 | December | 21 | 13 | \$ 471.80 |
| 200 | 82 | \$ 6,178.63 | TOTAL | 195 | 85 | \$ 7,467.75 |

R E C A P I T U L A T I O N

ALARMS
395

FIRES
167

FIRE LOSS
\$ 13,646.98

DISTRICT FIRE REPORT
For The Year
1951
OPERATION

ALARMS RECEIVED BY TELEPHONE

| DISTRICTS | A.M. | P.M. | VERB. | POL. | F.BOX | SPR. | 61 | 135 | Total |
|-----------|------|------|-------|------|-------|------|-----|-----|-------|
| Northwest | 25 | 61 | 3 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 37 | 38 | 84 |
| Northeast | 34 | 50 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 7 | 25 | 47 | 84 |
| Southwest | 39 | 83 | 9 | 10 | 0 | 1 | 29 | 73 | 122 |
| Southeast | 34 | 71 | 5 | 5 | 0 | 1 | 37 | 57 | 105 |
| Total | 152 | 263 | 19 | 23 | 1 | 9 | 128 | 215 | 395 |

VALUES AND LOSSES
BUILDINGS

| DISTRICTS | TOTAL VALUE | INSURANCE ON | TOTAL LOSS |
|-----------|----------------|-----------------|-------------|
| Northwest | \$ 268,217.00 | \$ 228,800.00 | \$ 605.78 |
| Northeast | \$ 633,005.00 | \$ 427,280.00 | \$ 3,581.89 |
| Southwest | \$ 572,787.00 | \$ 440,962.00 | \$ 3,389.77 |
| Southeast | \$ 388,450.00 | \$ 334,650.00 | \$ 1,786.85 |
| Total | \$1,862,459.00 | \$ 1,431,692.00 | \$ 9,364.09 |

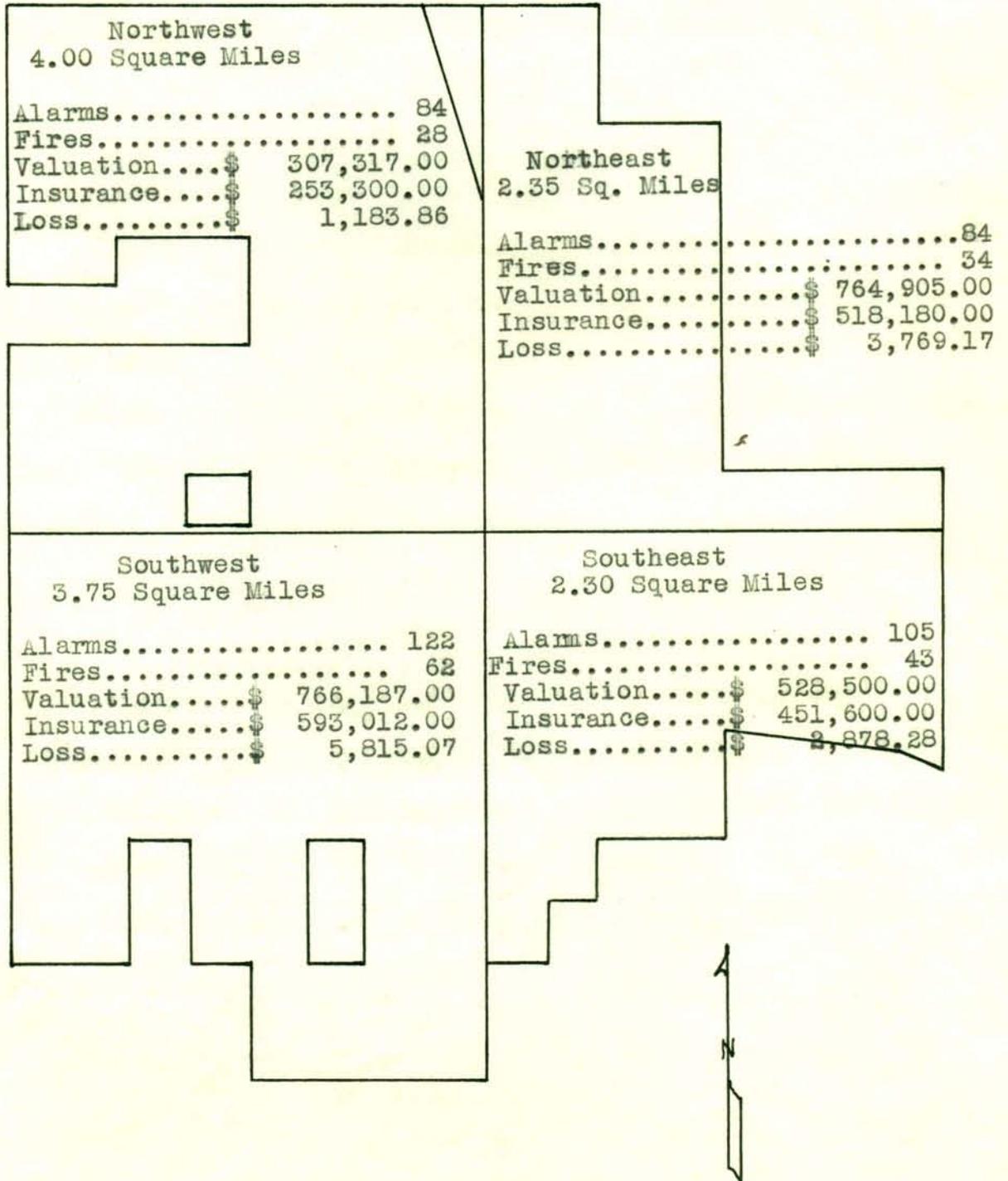
VALUES AND LOSSES
CONTENTS

| DISTRICTS | TOTAL VALUE | INSURANCE ON | TOTAL LOSS |
|-----------|---------------|---------------|-------------|
| Northwest | \$ 39,100.00 | \$ 24,500.00 | \$ 578.08 |
| Northeast | \$ 131,900.00 | \$ 90,900.00 | \$ 187.48 |
| Southwest | \$ 193,400.00 | \$ 152,050.00 | \$ 1,925.30 |
| Southeast | \$ 140,050.00 | \$ 116,950.00 | \$ 1,091.45 |
| Total | \$ 504,450.00 | \$ 384,400.00 | \$ 3,782.29 |

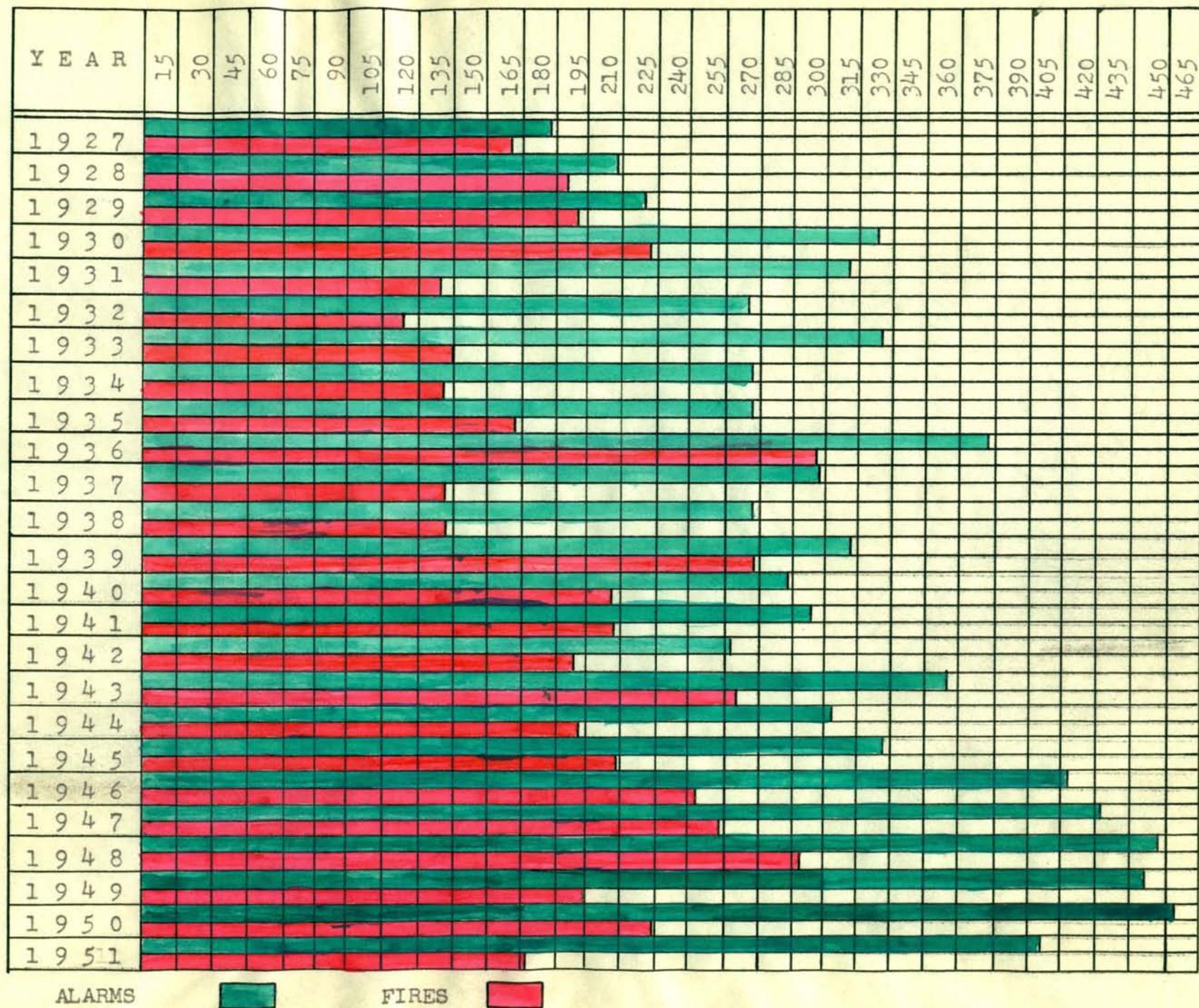
TOTAL FOR ALL DISTRICTS

| | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|--------------|
| Total Value | Insurance On | Total Loss |
| \$ 2,366,909.00 | \$ 1,816,092.00 | \$ 13,646.58 |

ALARMS RECEIVED BY DISTRICTS
 FIRE LOSS BY DISTRICTS
 FOR THE YEAR
 1 9 5 1



| TREND OF FIRE LOSSES FROM 1941 to 1951 | | | | | | | | |
|--|------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| YEAR | NUMBER OF ALARMS | NUMBER OF FIRES | AMOUNT OF PROPERTY THREATENED | AMOUNT OF INSURANCE ON PROPERTY | AMOUNT OF INSURANCE LOSS | AMOUNT OF FIRE LOSS | FIRE LOSS PER CAPITA | AVERAGE LOSS PER FIRE |
| 1941 | 292 | 205 | \$1,770,184.00 | \$1,386,679.20 | \$130,902.47 | \$132,531.14 | \$4.90 | 646.94 |
| 1942 | 257 | 187 | 2,317,042.80 | 1,504,099.00 | 21,838.64 | 25,995.74 | .9599 | 139.01 |
| 1943 | 353 | 229 | 4,021,982.20 | 2,491,211.84 | 44,694.69 | 52,610.65 | 1.942 | 229.74 |
| 1944 | 304 | 191 | 4,064,629.05 | 1,652,034.80 | 18,011.46 | 23,267.76 | .859 | 121.83 |
| 1945 | 330 | 207 | 2,352,090.25 | 1,702,446.65 | 19,948.56 | 20,886.95 | .7713 | 100.90 |
| 1946 | 406 | 242 | 3,691,002.49 | 3,070,093.00 | 48,872.70 | 57,299.89 | 2.115 | 236.78 |
| 1947 | 422 | 254 | 3,495,793.72 | 2,912,401.80 | 36,450.18 | 45,236.38 | 1.67 | 178.09 |
| 1948 | 448 | 287 | 11,376,639.10 | 9,909,669.40 | 33,291.70 | 45,054.72 | 1.66 | 156.99 |
| 1949 | 440 | 195 | 1,407,119.58 | 976,166.00 | 14,876.13 | 25,305.58 | .934 | 130.03 |
| 1950 | 452 | 223 | 2,996,988.56 | 1,945,848.98 | 82,541.70 | 126,226.10 | 4.216 | 566.21 |
| 1951 | 395 | 167 | 2,366,909.00 | 1,816,092.00 | 12,775.94 | 13,646.38 | .491 | 81.12 |



ALARMS



FIRES



POLICE DEPARTMENT COOPERATION AT FIRMS

YEAR - 1951

| MONTH | TOTAL NUMBER OF ALARMS | TOTAL ALARMS NO POLICE PRESENT | TOTAL ALARMS POLICE PRESENT | TOTAL NUMBER OF POLICE AT ALARMS |
|-----------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|
| January | 32 | 2 | 30 | 39 |
| February | 32 | 2 | 30 | 36 |
| March | 15 | 3 | 12 | 15 |
| April | 50 | 17 | 33 | 35 |
| May | 38 | 12 | 26 | 32 |
| June | 47 | 10 | 37 | 48 |
| July | 24 | 6 | 18 | 20 |
| August | 23 | 5 | 18 | 22 |
| September | 28 | 1 | 27 | 34 |
| October | 30 | 4 | 26 | 34 |
| November | 33 | 6 | 27 | 30 |
| December | 43 | 3 | 40 | 52 |
| Total | 395 | 71 | 324 | 397 |

RESIGNED

May 4th, 1951 Glenn W. Fessenden Fireman First Class.

APPOINTMENTS

June 1st, 1951 John H. Bender
July 16th, 1951 Marvin R. Gerdes.
November 1st, 1951 Ralph R. Luecht.
November 1st, 1951 Richard L. Pearson

RETIRED

April 1, 1951 Chief James Kelley retired as chief, after more than 43 years of service in the Department. The last 8 years of his service as Chief.

PROMOTIONS

William H. VerHelst.....September 20th, 1951 Promoted to Fireman 1st Class.
Ronald Van Horn.....February 1st, 1951 Promoted to Fireman 3rd Class.
John H. Bender.....December 1, 1951 Promoted to Fireman 3rd Class.

NEW EQUIPMENT.

April 30th 750 gallon water tank mounted on chassis of tractor of the old 2 man aerial ladder truck. This truck will be used to supply water, for fire fighting in areas of the City, where no hydrants are in service. Trailer part of old aerial sold for junk.

July 3rd 2400 feet of 2½ and 600 feet of 1½ inch hose put in service.

July 13th 1951 Pontiac 8 4 door sedan was put in service as Chief's Car.

September 6th. New motor installed in Engine # 2. This is a Red Diamond motor with 155 Horsepower. At the same time this motor was installed, a new braking system was installed.

November 2nd. City purchased a new Homelite Generator & 2 new lights.

4 pieces of apparatus are now equipped with 3 way Radio.

In December, Engine #3 a 1925 Stoughton was dismantled and sold for Junk.

MASON CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT

YEARLY REPORT

1951

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The Ahrens-Fox Combination Truck was purchased in 1928 and is now four years past the time a piece of fire apparatus should be kept in service, as recommended by the National Board of Underwriters. This piece of equipment should be replaced with a Quadruple Combination Truck with a One Thousand Gallon Per Minute two stage Centrifugal Pump.
2. Serious thought should be given the placing of a fire Station in the North part of the City. This station could be placed on City Property at the Water Plant and a drill tower should be built at the same time for the proper training of the men.
3. For better Communication in time of an emergency, or disaster, at least two more Radio Units should be added to the Department.

In conclusion, I take this opportunity to extend my hearty appreciation to you and the Members of the City Council for their loyal support in Fire Department matters, for without yours and their support the efficiency of the Department could not have been maintained.

It affords me pleasure to commend to you the Officers and Members of the Fire Department and Fire Prevention Bureau for the faithful and efficient manner in which they have discharged their duties.

I also wish to express my thanks to all other City Departments for their hearty good will and co-operation during the year.

To the Globe Gazette and the Radio Stations, I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation for their fair commendatory and impartial reports and articles published relating to the work performed by this Department.

Respectfully Submitted,

Boyd Arnold, Chief of
Fire Department.