

ANNUAL REPORT
MASON CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT
YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1970

Honorable Thomas E. Jolas, Mayor
City Hall
Mason City, Iowa

Dear Mayor Jolas:

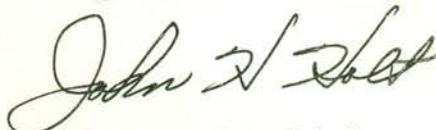
I have the honor to submit to you herewith the ANNUAL REPORT of the Mason City Fire Department for the year ending December 31, 1970. This is my first, and the sixty-first annual report of the Fire Department.

This report will show in detail the record of operations, alarms, valuations, insurance, and losses on fires which the Department responded to during the year. The information contained herein is almost entirely compiled within the corporate limits of the City; however, township alarms and mutual aid calls will appear occasionally in this report.

My recommendations for the betterment and improvement of the efficiency of the Department and fire service are also contained herein. If you wish additional information pertaining to the Department, it will be supplied to you upon request.

Due to the amount of time needed by the Insurance Adjusters to adjust and return fire claims, this report is submitted later than usual. All insured losses herein are the adjusted losses received from the Insurance Adjusters whenever possible.

Respectfully submitted,



John H. Holt, Chief
Mason City Fire Department
Mason City, Iowa

JHH:ms

MASON CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT

ANNUAL REPORT - 1970

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PERSONNEL

Mason City Fire Department

Year ending December 31, 1970

Chief of the Department - - - - -	1
Assistant Chief - - - - -	1
Chief of Fire Prevention Bureau - - - - -	1
Captain of the Department - - - - -	3
Inspector - - - - -	1
Lieutenant of the Department - - - - -	6
Fireman First Class - - - - -	19
Fireman Second Class - - - - -	2
Fireman Third Class - - - - -	3
Probationary Fireman - - - - -	3
 Total personnel, all grades - - - - -	 40

The following special assignments are made from the above personnel:

Fire Alarm Operator (Fireman First Class) - - -	3
Drillmaster - - - - -	1

NAME AND RANK	DATE APPOINTED	PROMOTED TO RANK	TOTAL SERVICE TO DECEMBER 31, 1970		
			YEARS	MONTHS	DAYS
<u>CHIEF</u>					
John H. Holt	July 18, 1946	April 1, 1970	24.	.5.	.13
<u>ASSISTANT CHIEF</u>					
Ronald C. Van Horn	February 1, 1956	July 1, 1970.	14.	11.	.0
<u>CHIEF OF FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU</u>					
John H. Bender	June 1, 1951	July 1, 1970.	19.	.7.	.0
<u>CAPTAIN</u>					
Vincent A. Lauer	April 16, 1946.	February 1, 1963.	24.	.8.	.15
Louis V. Rice, Jr.	January 1, 1947	February 1, 1963.	24.	.0.	.0
Richard B. Blunt	March 20, 1948.	February 26, 1969	22.	.9.	.11
<u>INSPECTOR</u>					
Thomas O. Madden	January 1, 1956	July 1, 1970	15.	.0.	.0
<u>LIEUTENANT</u>					
Dwaine O. Mc Dougle.	July 19, 1946	February 1, 1956.	24.	.5.	.12
Dan N. Allen	November 19, 1946	February 26, 1969	24.	.1.	.12
Marvin R. Gerdes	July 16, 1951	February 1, 1963.	19.	.5.	.15
Harold R. Marsh.	October 23, 1953.	August 16, 1960	17.	.2.	.8
George R. Pierson.	November 16, 1962.	July 1, 1970	8.	.1.	.15
Richard M. Walsh	January 7, 1963.	July 1, 1970	7.	11.	.24
<u>FIREMAN FIRST CLASS</u>					
Walter M. Berry.	April 16, 1946	February 1, 1945.	24.	.8.	.15
Warren H. Cunningham	April 16, 1946	December 26, 1947	24.	.8.	.15
Mike M. Dosen	April 16, 1946	March 8, 1948	24.	.8.	.15
Ralph R. Luecht.	November 1, 1951	November 1, 1953.	19.	.2.	.0
Charles F. Swanson	November 1, 1954	November 1, 1956.	16.	.2.	.0
James J. Hickey.	June 16, 1955	June 16, 1957	15.	.6.	.15
Donald E. Wedmore.	March 16, 1957	March 16, 1959.	13.	.9.	.15
Robert P. Lofing	April 1, 1959.	April 1, 1961	11.	.9.	.0
James E. Johnson	August 16, 1960.	August 16, 1962	10.	.4.	.15
Robert H. Arndt.	June 1, 1963	June 1, 1965.	7.	.7.	.0
Norman J. Chase.	February 5, 1964	February 5, 1966.	6.	10.	.27
Dennis J. Reardon.	February 19, 1964.	February 19, 1966	6.	10.	.13
Gerald M. Tatum.	August 16, 1964.	August 16, 1966	6.	.4.	.15
Dennis O. Scott.	September 16, 1965.	September 16, 1967. . . . .	.5.	.3.	.15
Lyle J. Battleson.	October 16, 1965.	October 16, 1967. . . . .	.4.	.2.	.15
Larry P. Harrington.	June 1, 1966.	June 1, 1968. . . . .	.4.	.7.	.0
Roger J. Poohl.	August 16, 1966	August 16, 1968 . . . . .	.4.	.4.	.15
David C. Balek.	March 1, 1967	March 1, 1969 . . . . .	.3.	10.	.0
Spencer W. Weaver	May 16, 1968	May 16, 1970. . . . .	.2.	.7.	.15
<u>FIREMAN SECOND CLASS</u>					
Gary W. Mc Cauley	June 4, 1969.	June 4, 1970. . . . .	.1.	.6.	.26
Terry L. Wedmore.	July 2, 1969.	July 2, 1970. . . . .	.1.	.5.	.29
<u>FIREMAN THIRD CLASS</u>					
Larry L. Kuhl	April 28, 1970.	October 28, 1970. . . . .	.0.	.8.	.3
Richard A. Morris	May 6, 1970	November 6, 1970. . . . .	.0.	.7.	.25
James J. Koch	June 2, 1970.	December 2, 1970 . . . . .	.0.	.6.	.29
<u>PROBATIONARY FIREMAN</u>					
Kenneth A. Christensen.	August 4, 1970.	August 4, 1970. . . . .	.0.	.5.	.27
Frederick J. Lehmann.	August 4, 1970.	August 4, 1970. . . . .	.0.	.5.	.27
Max K. Hubbard.	October 28, 1970.	October 28, 1970. . . . .	.0.	.2.	.3

AVERAGE YEARS' SERVICE FOR DEPARTMENT MEMBERS: 10 Yrs., 9 Mos., 18 Days
AVERAGE AGE OF ALL MEMBERS: 36 Yrs., 9 Mos., 6 Days

MEMBERSHIP ON PENSION AND RETIREMENT

<u>DATE OF PENSION OR RETIREMENT</u>	<u>RANK HELD AT TIME OF RETIREMENT</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>MONTHLY PENSION</u>
February 18, 1943	Lieutenant	Earl W. Barker	\$ 207.50
August 1, 1950	Fireman First Class	Leo D. King	215.63
February 1, 1952	Captain	Thomas M. Keenan	248.13
October 27, 1953	Fireman First Class	Douglas C. Fields	232.50
August 1, 1954	Widow of Lieutenant	Mrs. Fred E. Moore	208.56
October 1, 1954	Fireman First Class	William P. Mc Grath	202.31
October 1, 1954	Lieutenant	Marvin A. Lauen	208.65
October 1, 1954	Widow of Lieutenant	Mrs. Martin J. Faktor	123.75
September 1, 1956	Widow of Chief	Mrs. James Kelley	154.79
August 1, 1961	Fireman First Class	Frederick O. Grek	240.50
November 1, 1962	Widow of Chief	Mrs. A. Boyd Arnold	179.38
May 1, 1963	Widow of Lieutenant	Mrs. Harold H. Hutchinson	128.13
February 1, 1964	Fireman First Class	Leo M. Powers	256.08
May 2, 1966	Fireman First Class	Jesse J. Carroll	258.87
February 1, 1967	Supt. Fire Prev. Bureau	Harold E. Schurtz	274.56
February 1, 1969	Captain	John K. Cunningham	343.75
April 18, 1969	Fireman First Class	Lyle E. Gardinier	239.22
November 1, 1969	Widow of Clerk	Mrs. Ray D. Waller	138.31
February 1, 1970	Fireman First Class	Alfred B. Hesse	225.45
April 1, 1970	Chief	Clifford J. Pierce	416.66
June 1, 1970	Lieutenant	Elmer J. Fritz	226.12
July 1, 1970	Fireman First Class	Lynn A. Arnold	230.94
July 15, 1970	Fireman First Class	Lowell H. Moore	351.70
August 1, 1970	Lieutenant	Frank Hesse	342.50

FIRE DEPARTMENT ORGANIZATION - 1970

Thomas E. Jolas, Mayor

Council Public Safety Committee

Karl P. Johannsen, Chairman
Stanley Reynolds Al Heinz

JOHN H. HOLT
Chief of the Department

RONALD C. VAN HORN
Assistant Chief & Drillmaster

JOHN H. BENDER
Chief of Fire Prevention Bureau

* * * *

The Department has three battalions, each composed of:

Salvage Co.	Aerial No. 1	Civil Defense and
Quad Co. No. 1	Engine Co. No.1(Country Calls)	Emergency Units
Engine Co. No. 2	Engine Co. No.3(In Reserve)	

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BATTALION PERSONNEL

	<u>FIRST BATTALION</u>	<u>SECOND BATTALION</u>	<u>THIRD BATTALION</u>
<u>FIRE ALARM OPERATORS:</u>	Richard A. Morris	Charles F. Swanson	Gary W. Mc Cauley

SALVAGE CO.

Lieutenant:	Richard Walsh	Marvin Gerdes	Harold Marsh
Driver:	Larry Harrington	Norman Chase	Robert Lofing
Salvage man:	Roger Poohl	Dennis Scott	Robert Arndt

QUAD CO. NO. 1

Captain:	Vincent Lauer	Richard Blunt	Louis Rice, Jr.
Driver:	James Hickey	Ralph Luecht	David Balek
Ladderman No. 1:	Gerald Tatum	Spencer Weaver	Gary Mc Cauley
Ladderman No. 2:	Warren Cunningham	James Koch	Don Wedmore
Plugman:	Larry Kuhl	Frederick Lehmann	Max Hubbard

ENGINE CO. NO. 2

Lieutenant:	Dan Allen	George Pierson	Dwaine Mc Dougle
Driver:	Dennis Reardon	James Johnson	Mike Dosen
Plugman:	Lyle Battleson	Terry Wedmore	Walter Berry

FIRE APPARATUS & MOTOR CARS
DECEMBER 31, 1970

NOTE: All apparatus and motor cars have 3/way
Motorola Radios except Civil Defense Units

	<u>CAR NO.</u>	<u>YEAR</u>	<u>CYLINDERS</u>	<u>MAKE</u>	<u>TYPE</u>
Station #1:	1	1967	8	Ford	Chief's Car
	2	1970	6	American La France,	1000 GPM Cent. Pump & Booster
	3	1952	12	Seagrave	750 GPM Pump & Booster, Quad
	5	1957	6	FWD	750 GPM Cent. Pump & Booster
	6	1950	12	Seagrave	750 GPM Pump & Booster, 85' Aerial
	7	1965	8	Ford	Fire Prevention Bureau Car
	8	1956	12	Seagrave	750 GPM Cent. Pump & Booster
Station #2:	4	1962	6	FWD	100 GPM Cent. Pump & Booster
Not in Fire Service, at Station #1	10	1950	8	Ford	Civil Defense Generator Unit
	11	1956	4	Jeep	Civil Defense Unit

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU
YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1970

The Fire Prevention Bureau was organized on September 1, 1937 by action of the City Council. On July 1, 1970, John H. Bender was appointed Superintendent of the Bureau, having served as assistant in the Bureau since March 27, 1967.

The Bureau made and supervised a total of 4,713 inspections during 1970. Special effort was made during the holiday season to protect life and property in the business district, and many hazards were removed and corrected as a result of the work of the Bureau. A year-round program of Fire Prevention was conducted, with special emphasis during Fire Prevention Week. Investigations were made of false alarms and fires of undetermined or mysterious origin.

NUMBER OF FIRE PREVENTION INSPECTIONS - 1970

Commercial Buildings	1,552
Industrial Plants and Buildings . . . . .	.22
Warehouses . . . . .	.92
Wholesalers . . . . .	.82
Apartment Buildings	260
Hotels . . . . .	.21
Hospitals . . . . .	.20
Nursing Homes . . . . .	.68
Theatres . . . . .	.8
Schools	137
Churches . . . . .	.45
Gasoline & Oil Bulk Plants . . . . .	.46
Gasoline & Fuel Oil Tank Installations . . . . .	.8
Paint Spray Booths . . . . .	.5
Public Garages . . . . .	.83
Fire Escapes . . . . .	.5
Miscellaneous . . . . .	.955
	3,409

SUMMARY:	Regular Inspections	2,213
	Re-inspections	334
	Special Inspections	862
	Total	3,409

FIRE DEPARTMENT INSPECTIONS

	<u>1st Battalion</u>	<u>2nd Battalion</u>	<u>3rd Battalion</u>	<u>Department</u>
Probationary	10	0	0	10
Fireman 3rd Class	31	0	0	31
Fireman 2nd Class	0	55	0	55
Fireman 1st Class	311	220	524	1,055
Officers	31	73	49	153
Totals	383	348	573	1,304

BUREAU OF FIRE PREVENTION
Report Continued

PERMITS ISSUED:

Burning Permits 998

	NUMBER	CORRECTED OR REMOVED
<u>CONDITIONS REFERRED TO DEPARTMENTS</u>		
Building	6	6
Electrical	21	21
Plumbing	5	5
Police	3	3
Sanitary	4	4

CONDITIONS INVESTIGATED

Improper handling of waste materials.	35	35
Rubbish	48	48
Combustibles too close to heat source	3	3
Obsolete extinguishers	20	20
Improper use of incinerators	2	2
Flammable liquids violations	10	9
Flammable decorations.	2	2
New extinguishers needed.	56	51
Fire escapes in need of repair.	2	2
Exit Door not swinging out	1	1
Removal of lock on door	2	2
Electrical outlet by sink removed.	2	2
Removal of space heater from floor of garage	2	2
Snow removed from fire escape	7	7
No fuseable link on washing vat	1	1
Repair or removal of chimney	1	1
Removal of refrigerator in front yard	1	1
Storage blocking sprinkler system.	2	2
Metal can for paint rags	3	3
Cut weeds around building.	1	1
Improper washing vat	1	1
Removal of Carbon Tech. extinguisher.	4	4
Repair of rear exit	2	2
Furnace placed on floor in service station.	1	1
Plaster off ceiling in place of business	1	1

OBSTRUCTIONS INVESTIGATED

Fire escapes	1	1
Hallways	3	2
Exits.	12	12
Fire Doors	1	1
Aisles	1	1
Exit lights out or not properly marked.	11	11
Exit doors locked.	3	3
Exit doors out of order	3	1
Fire doors out of order	4	3

BUREAU OF FIRE PREVENTION
Report Continued

	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>CORRECTED OR REMOVED</u>
<u>ELECTRIC WIRING</u> - Drop cords in violation	4 . . . . .	.4
Improper electric wiring. . . . .	.12 . . . . .	.9
<u>NOTICES SERVED</u> - Orders to comply	148	
Compliance with corrections ordered.	150	

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES OF THE BUREAU

Conducted 22 investigations of fires; 18 causes established.
Served 12 notices of violation of Ordinance Nos. 924 & 1052 in conjunction with the Health Department. Compliance obtained in all cases.
All City owned buildings were inspected one time.
14 First Aid Fire Extinguisher surveys made; extinguishers provided as recommended.
8 schools of instruction were conducted for nursing homes on the use of fire extinguishers, patient evacuation, and fire safety.
1 class was held at the Multipurpose Center on child care and fire safety; 29 in attendance.
Supervised installation of 25 underground flammable liquid tanks.
Worked with 7 new businesses on fire safety.
Gave assistance to the State Fire Marshal's office twice.
1 case tried in Police Court; ruled in favor of defendant.
Checked 3 bomb threats in schools.
Bureau personnel assisted the Department in hanging and dismantling Christmas decorations.
Checked fire safety regulations on blueprint for one new building.
Inspected Cerro Gordo County Farm; signed application for State Fire Marshal's office.
Investigated 2 false alarms.
Assisted Department in distributing and collecting Muscular Dystrophy Cannisters.
Conducted fire drill and presented a safety talk for the Y.M.C.A.
Conducted 5 fire drills at Mercy Hospital.
Distributed 100 Fire Department calendars.
Presented talk and showed film at a safety meeting at Lehigh Cement Plant.

FIRE PREVENTION WEEK ACTIVITIES

Placed Fire Prevention posters in all business place windows.
Held fire drills in all schools, involving 8,527 students.
Presented Fire Prevention program in all grade schools, with
21 programs attended by 5,680 children.
Fire Prevention materials handed out to all school children.

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FOUR-DAY SCHOOLS ATTENDED BY BUREAU PERSONNEL

Annual Iowa Inspectors' School at Ames, Iowa.
Annual State Fire School at Ames, Iowa.
Iowa Instructors' Conference at Ames, Iowa.

FIRE OPERATING REPORT FOR YEAR 1970

<u>ANALYSIS OF ALARMS RECEIVED</u>	<u>In City</u>	<u>Township & Mutual Aid</u>
Verbally	8	2
By Police	62	3
By Notifier	10	1
By Fire Box	2	0
By Sprinkler	7	0
Over telephones 423-2145 & 423-2146	12	2
Over telephone 423-3124 (Overflow)	129	15
Over Fire Phone 423-3124	191	20
TOTAL ALARMS RESPONDED TO IN 1970..	421	43
False Alarms	7	1
Alarms received in A.M.	141	15
Alarms received in P.M.	277	28

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ANALYSIS OF FIRE CALLS

Miles traveled to fires	1,000.8	260.8
Hours worked at fires	219.6	41.05
Number of Firemen responding to alarms	2,274	156
Number of times pumps operated for booster	112.	14
Number of times pumps operated for hose lines	12.	1
Portable pump operated	1.	2
3" hose used (feet)	0.	0
2½" hose used (feet)	4,600.	1,200
1½" hose used (feet)	4,600.	850
Booster hose used (feet)	22,600.	2,000
Booster tanks used (gallon)	17,765.	4,510
Hand pumps used (gallon)	245.	90
5 lb. dry powder extinguisher used	16.	2
20 lb. dry powder extinguisher used	4.	0
30 lb. dry powder extinguisher used	0.	0
Ladders used (feet)	494.	56
Hydrants used	14.	3
Scott Air Pak Masks - 15 minutes	14.	0
Scott Air Pak Masks - 30 minutes	12.	4
E & J Resuscitator and Inhalator used	15.	0
Light Generator used	4.	0
250 Watt Light used	4.	0
500 Watt Light used	0.	0
Smoke Ejector used	66.	2
Fires out on arrival	16.	3

TYPE OF BUILDINGS INVOLVED IN FIRE

	<u>CITY</u>	<u>TOWNSHIP & MUTUAL AID</u>
Reinforced concrete	4	0
Brick & Stone	15	3
Ironclad	2	1
Frame	59	4
Concrete Block	1	1
In Automobiles & Trucks	60	4
Other than building fires	60	18

EXTENT OF FIRES, 1970

Confined to:		
Point of origin	176.	24
Room of origin	13.	3
Floor of origin	4.	0
Building	8.	4
Extended to adjoining Building	0.	0
Extended beyond adjoining Building	0.	0

FIRE OPERATING REPORT
Continued

VALUATIONS & LOSSES

TOTAL VALUES

Buildings	\$15,666,159.00
Contents	<u>4,846,227.00</u>
Total all property involved in fire	20,512,386.00

TOTAL INSURANCE

Buildings	15,355,264.00
Contents	<u>4,639,707.00</u>
Total all property involved in fire	19,994,971.00

TOTAL INSURANCE LOSS

Buildings . . . . .	.88,500.62
Contents	<u>.52,248.30</u>
Total insurance loss for 1970	140,748.99

TOTAL INSURED & UNINSURED LOSS

Buildings	90,241.42
Contents	<u>56,171.30</u>
Total insured & uninsured loss for 1970	146,412.62

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COMPARISON OF LOSSES

Loss for the year 1969	\$763,798.66
Loss for the year 1970	\$146,412.62

* * * *

AMOUNT OF LOSS PER FIRE

NUMBER

None	88
Less than \$5.00	3
Less than \$100.00	57
Less than \$500.00	26
Less than \$1,000.00	4
Less than \$5,000.00	14
Less than \$10,000.00	6
Over \$10,000.00	3

PERSONS KILLED & INJURED DUE TO FIRE, 1970

SALVAGE WORK, 1970

Firemen killed . . . . .	.0
Firemen injured . . . . .	.0
Civilians killed . . . . .	.4
Civilians injured	7

At fires	164
Salvage covers used	7
Other than fires	184
Salvage covers used	5

CAUSES OF FIRES, 1970

<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION OF CAUSE</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION OF CAUSE</u>
4.	.Acetylene cutting torch	1	.Melting wax on stove
1.	.Auto in automobile accident	1	.Natural gas leak, kitchen stove
1.	.Battery fell on fuel pump (truck)	1	.Natural gas wall furnace
1.	.Broken gasoline line of auto carburetor	1	.Oil on hot manifold (car)
1.	.Can of starting fluid left on hot auto engine	1	.Overheated auto engine
2.	.Carburetor flooded (auto)	2	.Overheated clothes dryer
1.	.Candle left burning	1	.Overheated soy beans
25.	.Carburetor backfire (auto)	1	.Overheated washing machine
1.	.Charcoal grill tipped over		motor
32.	.Cigarettes	1	.Overheated generator, auto
1.	.Child cleaning paint brush	1	.Overheated furnace motor
1.	.Cargo propane heater	1	.Overheated floor furnace
19.	.Children playing with matches	1	.Overheated rear brake, auto
2.	.Children playing with fire	1	.Overheated stereo
1.	.Cleaning motor with gasoline	1	.Pan of grease
1.	.Clothes basket on stove	3	.Pan of meat
1.	.Dust mops in clothes dryer	1	.Plastic pan in oven
2.	.Dump fire	2	.Pillow on fire
1.	.Electric short in heater tape	2	.Pilot light, hot water heater
7.	.Electric short in house wiring	1	.Pilot light, stove
2.	.Electric short in TV set	1	.Railroad fuses
1.	.Electric light bulb	1	.Rags in heated sink
1.	.Electric short in wiring of truck	2	.Set by persons unknown
7.	.Electric short in wiring of auto	1	.Smoldering gloves
3.	.Electric short in utility wire	2	.Sparks from incinerator
1.	.Electric short in transmission selector	2	.Sparks from locomotive
2.	.Electric short in electric motor on furnace	9	.Sparks from trash fire
1.	.Farmer burning cob pile	1	.Sparks in rubbish box
1.	.Faulty propane torch	2	.Spontaneous combustion, coal
1.	.Faulty gas control on furnace	1	.Smoking in bed
1.	.Faulty carburetor on auto	1	.Table lamp tipped over
1.	.Grease around kiln	7	.Undetermined
1.	.Grease in broiler	2	.Unattended bonfire
1.	.Flooded oil heater	2	.Vandals set fire
1.	.Grease under grill	1	.Welding operation
1.	.Gasoline leaking on hot engine of auto		
1.	.Gasoline can overturned		TOTAL DIFFERENT CAUSES: 201
2.	.Gasoline on hot lawn mower		
1.	.Gasoline thrown into fireplace		
2.	.Hot Water Heater		
1.	.Hot charcoal in plastic bag		
1.	.Hot ashes in fireplace pit		
1.	.Hot metal		
1.	.Leaves on hot motor of lawnmower		
1.	.Lint in automatic clothes dryer		
1.	.Lint in floor furnace		
1.	.Lightning		

TYPES OF PROPERTY INVOLVED IN FIRE

1970

Apartment Building	11
Automobiles & Trucks.	63
Bobcat Loader	1
Dwellings.	44
Dump	2
Flare in street.	1
Grass, Leaves, & Brush	25
Hotel	1
Hospital	1
Lawn Mower	3
Manufacturing plants	11
Mercantile	1
Mail Box	1
Power poles, electric wires.	3
Private Garage	8
Pile of plastic pipe	1
Pile of old lumber.	2
Pillow in parking lot.	1
Public garage	1
Play Shack	1
Propane Torch	1
Pile of hay and straw	2
Railroad ties	3
Railroad cars	4
Restaurants & cafes	2
Schools	1
Taverns	2
Trees.	1
Two wheel trailer.	1
Waste Container	2

Additional information pertaining to detailed information regarding fires in buildings, and losses, will be found in the 1970 National Fire Protection Association Annual Fire Survey report, contained in the Annual Report.

NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL FIRE SURVEY
1970

ALL FIRES & ALARMS

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>TYPE OF INCIDENT</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>ESTIMATED LOSS</u>
1. . .	Fires in buildings	81	\$ 133,965.72
2. . .	Fires in motor vehicles	60	4,991.15
3. . .	Fires in rubbish, brush	25	none
4. . .	Other outdoor fires	35	7,455.75
5.	TOTAL, ITEMS 1-4 . . . . .	.201 . . . . .	.146,412.62
6. . .	Malicious false alarms	7	none
7. . .	All other alarms . . . . .	.220	none
8.	TOTAL, ITEMS 5, 6, 7 . . . . .	.421 . . . . .	.146,412.62
9. . .	Fires in Christmas trees & decorations	none	none

10. . .	FIRE CASUALTIES:	<u>Firemen</u>	<u>Others</u>
	Killed	None	None
	Injured	4	7

BREAKDOWN OF FIRES IN BUILDINGS

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>OCCUPANCY</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>LOSS</u>
11. . .	Apartments	11	\$ 5,517.87
12. . .	Dwellings	42	87,059.64
13. . .	Hotels, Motels . . . . .	.1	20.00
14. . .	Other residential . . . . .	.8	10,247.20
15. . .	Institutions . . . . .	.1 . . . . .	.1.50
16. . .	Schools & Colleges . . . . .	.1	50.00
17. . .	Public assembly . . . . .	.4	2,901.00
18. . .	Stores, offices	2	none
19. . .	Manufacturing . . . . .	.11	28,168.51
20. . .	Storage	none	none
21. . .	Miscellaneous	none	none

CITY POPULATION, 1970 CENSUS: 30,491

EMERGENCY, FIRST AID, & DEATH CALLS
1970

- January 2 - Inhalator used on Leo Quinones, age 40, at 219 S. Kentucky. He appeared to be O.K. when the department arrived; no doctor present.
- January 14 - Called to 1615 S. Delaware for William Despenas, age 17 months; used inhalator for about 10 minutes; taken to Mercy Hospital by Police.
- January 16 - Oren Mc Farlin, age 85, lying on basement floor at 809 East State; used inhalator about 15 minutes; taken to hospital by Snell's Ambulance.
- January 18 - Called to 1615 S. Delaware for William Despenas, age 18 months; had difficulty breathing, inhalator used about 10 minutes; taken to hospital by Snell's Ambulance.
- February 12 - 320 - 15th St. N. E.; rescued four men from under boxcar which rammed into building at Decker's Packing Plant:
Bob Nutting, Age 38; 114 - 10th St. N. W.
Howard Spratt, Age 23; 217 - Sixth St. N. W.
Bill Keane, Age 54; Green Meadow Court, Clear Lake
Mike Barney, Age 26; 238 - 28th St. S. W.
- March 13 - To 1615 S. Delaware for William Despenas, age 20 months; was unconscious and not breathing; both the E & J and mouth to mouth resuscitation used; pronounced dead by Dr. Brady.
- March 15 - To 42 - 24th St. S. W.; Eric Loeckle, age 18 months, son of Dennis Loeckle; head caught in dresser drawer; pronounced dead by Dr. Rence. Used resuscitator about 15 minutes, mouth to mouth about 30 minutes.
- March 30 - Called to Elk's Club; found John Pritchard, age 47, having an apparent heart attack; E & J resuscitator used; he was taken to Mercy Hospital where he died shortly after.
- April 4 - Called to 3 miles west of Sugar Beet for drowning; body of George Hynes, age 16, from Manly, was recovered; case investigated by Sheriff's office.
- June 8 - Called to the pit behind Brigg's Transportation Company for drowning; body of Ricky Dean Klatt, age 17, was recovered; the Department worked on the boy for about 25 minutes; body taken to Mercy Hospital upon orders of Dr. Chang.
- June 10 - Called to 431 - 2nd St. N. E. for Reva Unger, age 47, who apparently had a heart attack; used inhalator for about 10 minutes; taken to Mercy Hospital by Snell's Ambulance.
- July 7 - Called to 501 - 3rd St. N. E.; found Wayne Solomon having trouble breathing; taken to Mercy Hospital by Snell's Ambulance.
- August 16 - Called to 119 - 18th St. S. E. for resuscitator for Geraldine Wike, age 45, apparent heart attack; used resuscitator for 12 minutes; taken to Mercy Hospital by Snell's Ambulance.
- August 22 - Called to 604 - 11th St. N. E., Louella M. Dye, age 57, apparent heart attack; used mouth to mouth about 5 minutes; used E & J resuscitator 45 minutes; pronounced dead by Dr. Tice.
- August 31 - Called to 11 East State; Bob Sinnott fell, due to possible seizure; he was up walking around upon arrival of Department; taken to hospital by Police.
- September 8 - Called to Lehigh Cement Plant; found Mike Marker, age 26, buried in bulk cement; body was removed by workers and Department.
- September 17 - Called to 126 - 3rd St. N. E.; found Ralph Hogan, age 78, dead from apparent heart attack; pronounced dead by Dr. Chang.
- September 20 - Called to 929 N. Pierce; Leslie Eugene Armstrong, age 58; used resuscitator for 15 minutes; pronounced dead; taken to Mercy Hospital by Snell's Ambulance.
- Note: No further calls for balance of year.

REPORT OF FIRE ALARM OFFICE - 1970

ALARMS RECEIVED PER DAY AND MONTH

<u>MONTH</u>	<u>SUNDAY</u>	<u>MONDAY</u>	<u>TUESDAY</u>	<u>WEDNESDAY</u>	<u>THURSDAY</u>	<u>FRIDAY</u>	<u>SATURDAY</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
January	4	6	9	7	5	5	9	45
February	3	2	1	2	6	2	2	18
March	5	2	2	2	2	5	2	20
April	7	4	4	11	5	7	12	50
May	5	3	1	2	3	7	8	29
June	0	7	6	3	0	5	5	26
July	5	6	8	6	5	8	9	47
August	4	7	1	4	13	10	7	46
September	2	3	7	3	10	9	3	37
October	5	5	2	8	1	9	6	36
November	4	2	6	6	5	6	4	33
December	<u>4</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>34</u>
TOTALS	48	54	51	59	60	77	72	421

ALARMS RECEIVED FOR EACH 8-HOUR PERIOD

<u>MONTH</u>	<u>8:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.</u>	<u>4:00 P.M. to MIDNITE</u>	<u>MIDNITE to 8:00 A.M.</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>FIRE LOSS</u>
January	22	15	8	45	\$ 52,827.32
February	8	7	3	18	470.00
March	5	9	6	20	199.00
April	15	23	12	50	10,486.54
May	14	10	5	29	1,672.07
June	8	14	4	26	2,608.00
July	16	22	9	47	11,854.45
August	25	17	4	46	14,934.00
September	12	18	7	37	3,115.33
October	11	20	5	36	909.40
November	8	18	7	33	11,793.21
December	<u>14</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>34</u>	<u>35,543.30</u>
TOTALS	158	184	79	421	\$146,412.62

REPORT OF FIRE ALARM OFFICE - 1970
Continued

ALARMS RECEIVED BY HOUR

<u>MORNING HOURS</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>AFTERNOON & EVENING HOURS</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>
12:00 (Midnite) - 1:00 . . . . .	.10	12:00 (Noon) - 1:00 . . . . .	. 26
1:00 - 2:00 . . . . .	.12	1:00 - 2:00. . . . .	. 16
2:00 - 3:00 . . . . .	.14	2:00 - 3:00. . . . .	. 19
3:00 - 4:00 . . . . .	. 5	3:00 - 4:00. . . . .	. 24
4:00 - 5:00 . . . . .	. 9	4:00 - 5:00. . . . .	. 35
5:00 - 6:00 . . . . .	. 3	5:00 - 6:00. . . . .	. 29
6:00 - 7:00 . . . . .	. 6	6:00 - 7:00. . . . .	. 22
7:00 - 8:00 . . . . .	.14	7:00 - 8:00. . . . .	. 23
8:00 - 9:00 . . . . .	.11	8:00 - 9:00. . . . .	. 25
9:00 - 10:00 . . . . .	.18	9:00 - 10:00 . . . . .	. 22
10:00 - 11:00. . . . .	.16	10:00 - 11:00 . . . . .	. 17
11:00 - 12:00.	<u>.26</u>	11:00 - 12:00	<u>. 19</u>
TOTAL MORNING ALARMS	144	TOTAL AFTERNOON ALARMS	277

TOTAL ALL ALARMS IN CITY 421

* * * * *

TOWNSHIP ALARMS UNDER COUNTY TAXATION

Mason Township	32
S½ Lime Creek Township	6
Portland Township	0
Lake Township	2

MUTUAL AID & CONTRACT ALARMS

Assistance to Clear Lake Fire Department	1
Assistance to Plymouth Fire Department	1
Assistance to Manly Fire Department	1

TOTAL OUT OF CITY ALARMS . . . 43

TREND OF FIRE LOSSES, 1961 to 1970

TEN-YEAR AVERAGE

* * * * *

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>NUMBER OF ALARMS</u>	<u>NUMBER OF FIRES</u>	<u>AMOUNT OF PROPERTY THREATENED</u>	<u>AMOUNT OF INSURANCE ON PROPERTY</u>	<u>AMOUNT OF INSURANCE LOSS</u>	<u>AMOUNT OF FIRE LOSS</u>	<u>FIRE LOSS PER CAPITA</u>	<u>AVERAGE LOSS PER FIRE</u>
1961	477	196	\$ 3,277,653.00	\$ 2,739,550.00	\$ 31,117.16	\$ 32,635.66	\$ 1.06	\$ 166.29
1962	488	187	4,609,851.00	3,718,925.00	32,574.14	44,036.54	1.43	235.49
1963	524	267	7,344,025.32	6,625,996.50	333,851.30	379,006.67	12.36	1,419.50
1964	483	258	10,762,952.00	7,807,020.00	66,408.49	73,644.85	2.37	285.41
1965	436	222	4,871,932.00	3,903,008.00	103,280.60	117,316.03	3.50	528.45
1966	488	240	8,328,544.84	7,609,166.33	116,528.65	129,713.00	4.22	540.47
1967	460	234	8,997,125.96	8,484,967.96	51,124.10	56,079.80	1.83	239.66
1968	493	297	8,191,758.72	7,543,029.18	143,578.93	178,810.42	5.82	602.05
1969	370	187	13,472,603.35	11,487,119.72	415,153.23	763,798.66	24.87	4,084.49
1970	421	201	20,512,386.00	19,994,971.00	140,748.99	146,412.62	4.81	728.42
TEN-YEAR AVERAGE	461	226	7,836,883.21	7,691,375.37	142,436.60	192,454.25	6.22	883.02

SCHOOL AND DRILL - 1970

During the year 1970, a total of 2,931 man hours of supervised schools drill times were held for the fire fighting force. These covered a variety of subjects, as follows:

1. Location of hydrants
2. Location of streets
3. Beginning, breaks, and ending of streets
4. Connections to hydrants
5. Pump drill
6. Raising and use of ladders
7. Location of tools and equipment on trucks;
instruction as to proper use of these
8. Mask drills
9. Evaluations
10. Study of buildings
11. Public relations
12. Resuscitator

* * * * *

APPOINTMENTS - 1970

<u>NAME</u>	<u>DATE OF APPOINTMENT</u>	<u>ASSIGNMENT</u>
Larry J. Kuhl	April 28, 1970	1st Battalion
Richard A. Morris	May 6, 1970	1st Battalion
James J. Koch	June 2, 1970	2nd Battalion
Ronald J. Colby (Resigned October 21, 1970)	June 24, 1970	3rd Battalion
Kenneth A. Christensen	August 4, 1970	3rd Battalion
Frederick J. Lehmann	August 4, 1970	2nd Battalion
Max K. Hubbard	October 28, 1970	3rd Battalion

PROMOTIONS - 1970

<u>NAME</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>FORMER RANK</u>	<u>PROMOTED TO RANK</u>
Terry L. Wedmore	January 2, 1970	Probationary	Fireman 3rd Class
John H. Holt	April 1, 1970	Chief of Fire Prevention Bureau	Chief of the Fire Department
Spencer W. Weaver	May 16, 1970	Fireman 2nd Class	Fireman 1st Class
Gary Mc Cauley	June 4, 1970	Fireman 3rd Class	Fireman 2nd Class
George R. Pierson	July 1, 1970	Fireman 1st Class	Lieutenant
Richard M. Walsh	July 1, 1970	Fireman 1st Class	Lieutenant
Thomas O. Madden	July 1, 1970	Fireman 1st Class	Inspector
Ronald C. Van Horn	July 1, 1970	Clerk	Assistant Chief
John H. Bender	July 1, 1970	Captain	Chief of Fire Prevention Bureau

* * * * *

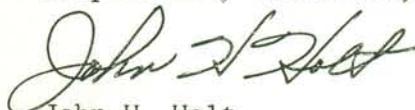
RETIREMENTS - 1970

<u>NAME</u>	<u>DATE RETIRED</u>	<u>RANK AT RETIREMENT</u>	<u>LENGTH OF SERVICE AT RETIREMENT</u>
Alfred B. Hesse	March 1, 1970	Fireman 1st Class	34 Years
Clifford J. Pierce	April 1, 1970	Chief of Department	42 Years
Elmer J. Fritz	June 1, 1970	Lieutenant	31 Years
Lynn A. Arnold	July 1, 1970	Fireman 1st Class	35 Years
Lowell H. Moore (Disability)	July 15, 1970	Fireman 1st Class	15 Years
Frank A. Hesse	August 1, 1970	Lieutenant	40 Years

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CHIEF

1. The Department's manpower is not full strength. The membership off-duty, call-in record is excellent; however, our on-duty crew, which is ready to respond at all times, is short two men on each of the three battalions. This is in comparison to the ready crews of 1962. As you know, this was brought about by the cut of weekly hours from 67½ hours to a 56 hour work week, to comply with State Law.
2. Plans should be made to combine our communication center with the Police Department, allowing alarms to come into one center. This would also give us one more man on each Battalion for fire fighting.
3. The 1952 model Quad should be replaced with an 85 ft. elevated platform. This piece of apparatus has had much work done on the motor, and several cracks in the motor have been repaired. I recommend that a new piece of apparatus be ordered soon to replace the Quad, since it will take a year or longer for delivery.
4. A new fire station should be built at a proper location, closing the south station, and operating all companies out of one central station. With the amount of personnel we have in the Department, this would make a much more efficient operation. We could then operate out of one station with two engine companies and a piece of aerial equipment.
5. When the annexation areas become a part of the City, six men should be added to the Fire Department, two on each Battalion.
6. I would also like to see one man added to the Fire Prevention Bureau in the near future. It is important to prevent fires before they start, and the only way to do this is with a good inspection program.

Respectfully submitted,



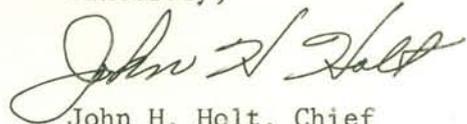
John H. Holt
Chief of the Department

CONCLUSION

I wish to express my sincere thanks to:

- The Mayor and City Council for their support and cooperation in the operation of the Fire Department.
- Members of the Civil Service Commission, the Board of Trustees of the Fire Retirement System, the City Clerk and her staff, and to all Department Heads within the City.
- Members of the various inspection departments within the City for their cooperation and assistance given to the members of the Fire Prevention Bureau.
- the citizens of the City of Mason City for fine cooperation with the Fire Prevention Bureau and Inspectors of the Fire Department.
- The Globe-Gazette and radio and television stations for the liberal space and time given to the true and accurate reporting of all fires.
- The members of the Mason City Police Department for excellent cooperation.
- Each and every member of the Mason City Fire Department for promptness and efficiency in the performance of their duties.

Sincerely,



John H. Holt, Chief
Mason City Fire Department