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Boston Fire Department





ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

FIRE DEPARTMENT
AND WIRE DIVISION

OF THE

CITY OF BOSTON

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1932



CITY OF BOSTON
PRINTING DEPARTMENT
1933

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

FIRE DEPARTMENT
AND WIRE DIVISION

OF THE

CITY OF BOSTON

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1932



CITY OF BOSTON
PRINTING DEPARTMENT
1933

Boston Fire Department
Feb. 3, 1940

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OFFICIALS OF THE DEPARTMENT.

EDWARD F. McLAUGHLIN,
Fire Commissioner.

HERBERT J. HICKEY,
Executive Secretary of the Department.

HENRY A. FOX,
Chief of Department.

GEORGE L. FICKETT,
Superintendent of Fire Alarm Division.

WALTER J. BURKE,
Superintendent of Wire Division.

EDWARD E. WILLIAMSON,
Superintendent of Maintenance Division.

ALBERT J. CAULFIELD,
Deputy Chief in Charge of Fire Prevention Division.

MARTIN H. SPELLMAN, M. D.,
Medical Examiner.



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

FIRE DEPARTMENT

FOR THE YEAR 1932.

Boston, July 31, 1933.

HON. JAMES M. CURLEY,
Mayor of the City of Boston.

DEAR SIR,— I have the honor to submit herewith a report of the activities of the Boston Fire Department for the year ending December 31, 1932, as required by section 24, chapter 4, of the Revised Ordinances of 1925.

FIRE LOSS.

The total fire loss in the City of Boston, estimated by the insurance companies, amounted to \$4,240,168.09. This is an increase of \$36,749 over the loss of 1931. There were thirty-three fires with a loss of over fifteen thousand dollars as compared with thirty-seven in the previous year. The increase in the loss may be attributed to five severe fires during the year as follows:

January 4, I. O. O. F. Building <i>et al.</i> , 507-515 Tremont street	\$323,575 65
January 28, A. Shapiro <i>et al.</i> , Beach street	169,636 46
April 9, Automatic Radio Manufacturing Company, 112-118 Canal street	90,828 35
July 8, R. H. White Company, 518-536 Washington street	112,905 57
December 5, Ryder & Brown, 51 Melcher street,	121,863 90

During the year the department responded to 9,407 alarms of which 5,562 were box alarms and 3,845 were

still and automatic alarms. There were 1,168 false alarms during the year, an increase of 257 over the year 1931.

FIRE PREVENTION.

The personnel of the fire prevention division has been diligent in its duties during the year and continued vigilance has been practiced to reduce the fire hazard.

During the year all classes of buildings, with the exception of one and two family dwellings, were inspected.

Number of inspections (initial)	325,705
Number of reinspections	12,122
Number of complaints reported	8,498
Number of corrections	23,679
Number of personal inspections by officers of Fire Prevention Division	2,182
Oil burners inspected	2,026

Reports of hazardous conditions were sent to other departments as follows:

To Building Department	2,063
To Health Department	9
To Schoolhouse Department	6
Notices sent to correct hazardous conditions	688
Personal services by Constable	457

During the Christmas holiday season a detail of inspectors was maintained in and about the shopping and high value districts and other locations where shopping congestion prevailed.

Special and intensive inspection campaigns were conducted in certain sections of the city and daily inspections were maintained in several building groups where certain hazards and conditions existed.

In addition to inspections made by the Fire Prevention inspectors, the following number of inspections were made by District and Company Officers:

Building inspections	66,991
Theatre inspections	3,849
Schoolhouse inspections	3,815
Public buildings inspected	920
Car house inspections	91
Inspections of Long and Deer Islands	24
Total number of inspections made by Fire Prevention inspectors, district and company officers	449,902

ARSON.

In accordance with the provisions of chapter 383 of the Acts of 1931, the Fire Department continued the prosecution of the crime of arson and incendiarism unrelentlessly. It is quite apparent that the law prohibiting the setting of fires for malice, gain or fraud, is disregarded and violated by a large number of people in our city, and to combat this menace the Arson Unit of the Fire Prevention Division continued to function twenty-four hours a day assisted by police officers detailed for this special work by the Police Commissioner. The squad has responded to all fires as soon as they are reported to be of suspicious origin, and in many cases before any reports were received. The success of the Arson Unit is due in a great measure to the ability and integrity of Deputy Chief Albert J. Caulfield who organized the unit under my direction, and has continued to supervise its operation and participate intimately in all its investigations.

The record for the Arson Unit for the past twelve months is as follows:

Number of investigations by Arson Unit	525
Number of persons interviewed at Division Office	48
Number of inquests held	49
Number of cases submitted to District Attorney for action,	20
Number of cases arraigned in Municipal Court	11
Dismissed	3
Held for Grand Jury	8
Number of cases presented to Grand Jury	16
Number of "No Bills"	2
Number of indictments	14
Number of trials	4
Number of persons convicted	4
Number of persons indicted and waiting trial	34
Number of persons arrested	36
Number of persons summoned to inquests	542
Department witnesses	258
Civilian witnesses	281
Interpreters	3

BUILDINGS.

A new fire station at the corner of K and Fourth streets, South Boston, was completed and occupied on May 2, 1932. The building is three stories, brick, with a large drill tower in the rear. The building is occupied

by Engine Company 2, formerly located at O and Fourth streets, and Ladder Company 19, formerly stationed at 715 East Fourth street. The building was erected at a cost of \$138,085.13, excluding the land. The buildings formerly occupied by these two companies were immediately transferred to the Public Buildings Department as soon as they were vacated.

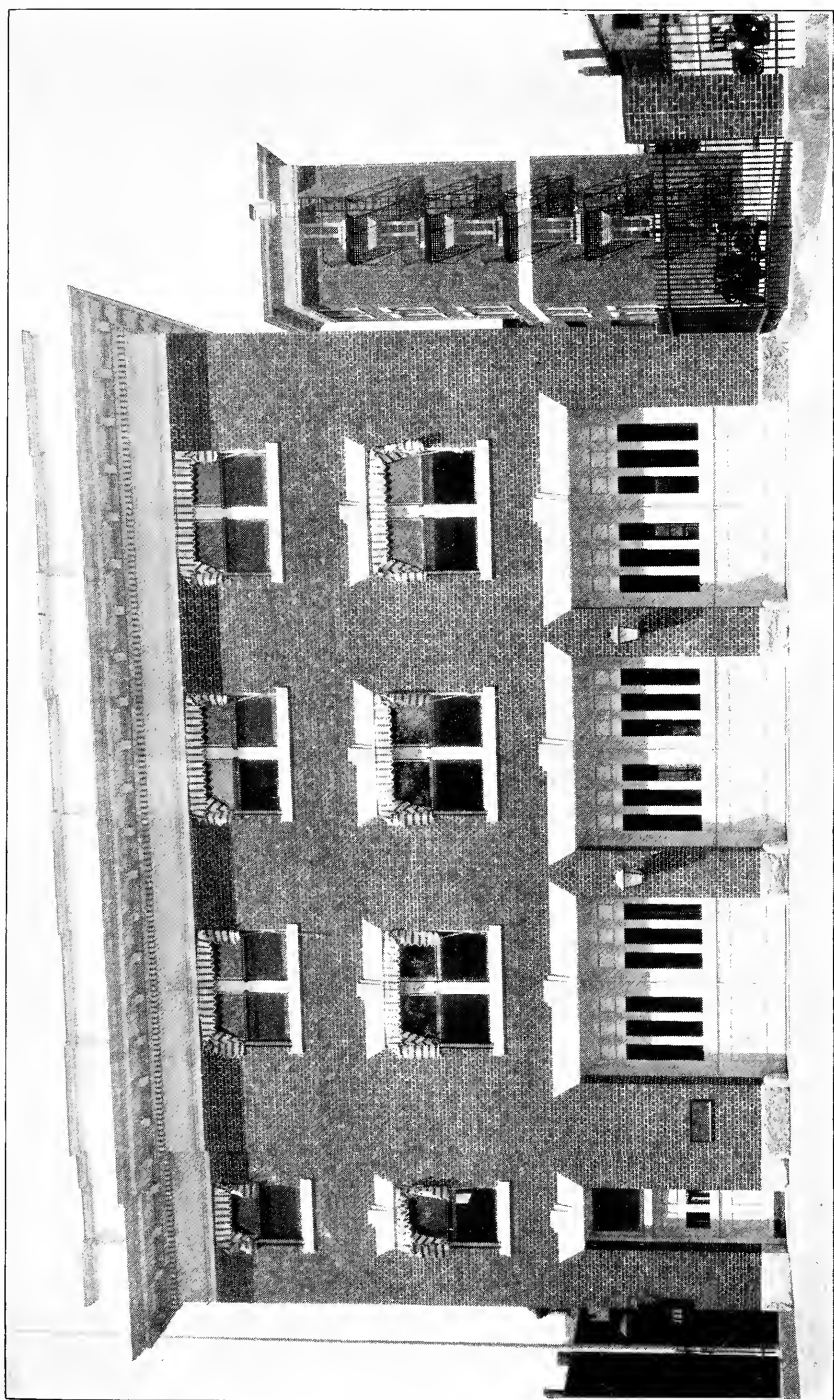
FIRE APPARATUS.

During the year eight motor vehicles were purchased, tested and placed in service as follows:

- 1 V 12-cylinder Metropolitan 85-foot aerial truck.
- 2 V 12-cylinder Metropolitan 1,000-gallon triple combination pumpers.
- 1 8-cylinder Standard Hupmobile sedan.
- 1 8-cylinder Ford coupe.
- 3 8-cylinder Ford roadsters with pick-up bodies and closed cabs.
- 1 Motor cycle was traded in, one school car and seven old hose cars were sold at public auction.

The motor equipment of the department, at the present time, consists of the following:

TYPE.	In Service.	In Reserve.
Pumping engines.....	52	9
Steam engines (tractors).....		3
Hose cars.....	48	8
Aerial ladder truck.....	23	5
City service trucks.....	7	5
Water towers.....	3	1
Chief officers' cars.....	34	8
School car.....		1
Rescue cars.....	3	1
Fuel cars.....	2	1
Portable lighting plants.....	2	
Wrecking car.....	1	
Commercial trucks.....	12	
Emergency cars (Ford).....	8	
Ford coupes.....	3	



ENGINE COMPANY 2 AND LADDER COMPANY 19, EAST FOURTH AND K STREETS.

HIGH PRESSURE SERVICE.

The records of the two high pressure stations for the year are as follows:

	Station No. 1.	Station No. 2.
Total alarms to which pumps responded.....	126	295
Water discharged *.....	2,000 gallons	1,390,000 gallons

* Owing to the construction of the Venturi meters they do not record flows under 600 gallons per minute.

At the present time the high pressure system has 501 hydrants in service and 18.45 miles of 12-inch, 16-inch and 20-inch mains.

HYDRANTS.

The following is a list of the hydrants in service for fire purposes on December 31, 1932:

	Public.	Private.
Ordinary post.....	3,577	131
Boston post.....	2,518	24
Lowry.....	718	33
Boston Lowry.....	352	5
Batchelder and Finneran post.....	3,715	5
Boston.....	117	111
High pressure.....	501	
Chapman post.....	71	55
Ludlow post.....	4	13
Matthew post.....		4
Coffin post.....	1	
Totals.....	11,574	381

FIRE COLLEGE.

The first term of the fire college, which was organized in 1931, was completed in 1932. Three semesters of the college were held in 1932. One hundred and twelve officers from the Boston Fire Department attended the college, and thirty-eight officers from outside departments attended the college.

The college was organized with a view to improving the efficiency and morale of the department by teaching the men a systematic and uniform method of operation at fires as well as providing them with a technical knowledge of their work.

MUTUAL AID.

The department responded to sixty (60) alarms of fire outside the city limits as follows:

Milton	36
Somerville	17
Brookline	1
Quincy	3
Everett	1
Chelsea	1
Revere	1

FIRE ALARM SERVICE.

The fire alarm service of the department has been maintained at its usual high standard.

Mutual aid alarm service was extended by making circuit connections between Boston and Quincy, and Boston and Milton.

OPERATING RECORDS.

First alarms	5,562
Second alarms	75
Third alarms	16
Fourth alarms	3
Fifth alarm	1
Total	<u>5,657</u>

BOX ALARMS RECEIVED BUT NOT TRANSMITTED.

Same box received two or more times for same fire	509
Adjacent boxes received for same fire	368
Received from boxes but treated as stills	8
Total	<u>885</u>

STILL ALARMS RECEIVED AND TRANSMITTED.

Received from citizens by telephone	2,683
Received from Police Department by telephone	256
Received from Fire Department stations	1,180
Received from boxes but treated as stills	8
Mutual aid alarms (adjacent cities and towns) treated as stills	59
Emergency service treated as stills	154
Total	<u>4,340</u>

Still alarms received by telephone for which box alarms were afterwards received and transmitted	306
Still alarms received by telephone for which box alarms, not received, were transmitted (11 p. m. to 7 a. m.)	315
Total	<u>621</u>

AUTOMATIC AND A. D. T. ALARMS.

Boston Automatic Fire Alarm Company:	
Transmitted by company to this department	99
Box alarms received and transmitted after automatic alarms had been struck	5
Box alarms not received but transmitted, after automatic alarm had been struck (11 p. m. to 7 a. m.)	22
Automatic alarms received at fire alarm office but not transmitted	2
American District Telegraph Company:	
Transmitted by company to this department	96
Box alarms received and transmitted after A. D. T. alarms had been struck	8
Box alarms not received but transmitted after A. D. T. alarms had been struck (11 p. m. to 7 a. m.)	29
A. D. T. alarms received at fire alarm office but not transmitted	3

SUMMARY OF ALARMS.

Alarms received:	
Box alarms, including multiples	6,176
Still alarms, all classes except box alarms	4,332
Boston automatic alarms	99
A. D. T. alarms	96
Total received from all sources	10,703
Box alarms not received but transmitted	366
	<u>11,069</u>
Exclude following:	
Multiples	95
Box alarms received but not transmitted	877
Still alarms for which other alarms were transmitted, Automatic alarms for which other alarms were transmitted	621
A. D. T. alarms for which other alarms were transmitted	29
	40
	<u>1,662</u>

Total alarms, with eliminations, to which apparatus responded:

First alarms	5,562
Still alarms	3,719
A. D. T. alarms	56
Automatic alarms	70
	<hr/>
	<u>9,407</u>

MULTIPLE ALARM FIRES.

With two alarms	62
With three alarms	13
With four alarms	2
With five alarms	1

FIRE ALARM BOX RECORDS.

Boxes from which no alarms were received	404
Box tests and inspections	11,367

NOTE.— All street box doors are tested weekly.

FIRE ALARM BOXES IN SERVICE.

Owned by Fire Department	1,173
Owned by School Buildings Department	260
Owned by Boston Automatic Fire Alarm Company	47
Privately owned	153
	<hr/>
	<u>1,633</u>

FIRE ALARM BOXES IN DISTRICTS.

District 1	96	District 9	110
District 2	73	District 10	129
District 3	45	District 11	149
District 4	85	District 12	106
District 5	75	District 13	165
District 6	102	District 14	141
District 7	105	District 15	123
District 8	128		

SUMMARY OF WORK DONE IN 1932.

	Feet.
Line wire used in new work (approximately)	18,850
Line wire used for replacements (approximately)	10,370
Line wire removed from service (approximately)	44,100
Aerial cable installed in new work	3,400
Conductors in same	11,400
Aerial cable removed from service	1,060
Conductors in same	8,560
Underground cable installed (extensions)	42,857

	Feet.
Conductors in same	595,647
Underground cable replaced (defective)	13,477
Conductors in same	232,553
Conduits laid underground	11,092
Ducts in same	11,318
Ducts abandoned	1,643
Manholes built	19
Handholes built	5
Fire alarm boxes installed by this department	24
Fire alarm boxes installed by School Buildings Department	11
Fire alarm boxes installed on private property	2
Fire alarm boxes relocated	14
Fire alarm boxes removed from service	14
Box posts installed	24
Box posts relocated	5
Box posts reset or replaced by new	7
Cable posts installed	4
Cable posts relocated	1
Cable posts removed from service	2
Underground cable boxes attached to poles	16
Underground cable boxes removed from service	3

WIRE DIVISION.

Regular and periodical inspections have been made of all theatres, places of amusement, and public halls, together with new installations and changes throughout the city.

Thorough investigations were made of all fires and accidents reported as due to electrical causes, and reports of the same are in the files of the Wire Division.

Following is a table showing a summary of the work of the interior division:

Notice of new work received	14,494
Number of permits issued to turn on current	11,549
Number of incandescent lamps inspected	2,263,950
Number of motors inspected	16,692
Number of inspections made	35,732
Number of inspections made of theatres, places of amusement and public halls	1,501

During the year there were ninety-three fires in buildings which after investigation were found to have been due to electrical causes, one pole fire, one manhole fire, four miscellaneous fires and troubles, and eight injuries to persons, one of which was fatal.

The fire losses from fires due to electrical causes were slight, being approximately \$17,438.38.

The income from permits to perform electrical work was \$42,836.82.

EXTERIOR DIVISION.

The underground district for the year 1932, as prescribed under authority of chapter 101 of the Acts of 1931, comprised the following streets:

City Proper.—Massachusetts avenue, from Harrison avenue to Albany street.

Dorchester.—Bird street, from Columbia road to Magnolia street; Geneva avenue, from Blue Hill avenue to Vinson street.

Roxbury.—Smith street, from Parker street to St. Alphonsus street.

West Roxbury.—Buchanan road, from Centre street to Andover road; Centre street, from the Arborway to South street.

Brighton.—Graycliff road, from Commonwealth avenue to Gillard road, making a total distance of four miles as prescribed by law.

In these prescribed streets from which poles and overhead wires were to be removed, there were standing on January 1, 1932, a total of one hundred and forty-nine (149) poles (not including the trolley poles of the Boston Elevated Railway which are exempt) owned by the Edison Electric Illuminating Company and New England Telephone and Telegraph Company, these poles, in addition to the trolley poles of the Boston Elevated Railway, supporting one million nine hundred and twenty-five thousand eight hundred (1,925,800) feet of overhead wires, owned by the Edison Electric Illuminating Company, New England Telephone and Telegraph Company, Boston Fire Department (Fire Alarm Branch), Boston Police Department (Police Signal Service) and Boston Elevated Railway.

During the past year the inspectors of this division have reported one hundred and forty-eight (148) poles decayed at base and twenty-nine (29) poles leaning, or a total of one hundred and seventy-seven (177) poles, which were replaced by new poles or reset by the various companies at the request of this department.

The following table shows the overhead work for the year from January 1, 1932, to December 31, 1932, inclusive:

Number of new poles in new locations	91
Number of poles replaced, reset or straightened	764
Number of poles removed	253
Number of poles now standing in the public streets	17,762
Number of defects reported	1,810
Number of defects corrected	1,668
(Other defects in process of correction.)	
Number of notices of overhead construction	6,259
Number of overhead inspections	22,302
Number of overhead reports	7,111
Number of overhead wires removed by owners (in feet)	654,874

UNDERGROUND CONSTRUCTION.

The ducts used for the underground conduits of the drawing-in systems are of the following type:

1. Vitrified clay (laid in concrete).
2. Fiber (laid in concrete).
3. Iron.
4. Wood.

In side or residential streets special underground construction for electric light and power purposes (110 and 220 volts), of the type known as the "Split Fiber Solid Main System," has also been installed.

The electrical approvals for underground electrical construction numbered	1,636
Number of inspections of underground electrical construction	5,384
Number of reports of underground electrical construction	1,318

Table Showing Underground Work for the Year 1932.

COMPANY.	Feet of Conduit.	Feet of Duct.	Feet of Cable.	Number of Manholes.	Number of Services.
Boston Elevated Railway.....	3,292	13,298	54,373	12	1
Boston Consolidated Gas Company.	1,600	1,818	22,148	1	47
Edison Electric Illuminating Company.	82,454	283,953	259,205	149	866
Boston Fire Department (Fire Alarm Branch).	2,893	2,991	42,857	6	24
Boston Low Tension Wire Association.	20	20	.....	.....	1
Boston Police Department (Police Signal Service).	1,112	1,112	32,226	.....	30
New England Telephone and Telegraph Company.	9,989	42,187	71,853	12	38
School Buildings Department....	25	25	9,676	.....	1
Western Union Telegraph Company.	200	5,975	.....	.....	.....
Totals.....	101,585	351,379	1,192,338	180	1,008

NOTE.—“Split Fiber Solid Main System,” of the Edison Electric Illuminating Company, is included in the above figures, comprising 1,047 feet of conduit and 2,045 feet of duct.

Table Showing the Amount and Distribution of Boston's Electrical Power, December 31, 1932.

COMPANY.	Total Rated Horse Power of Boilers.	Total Rated Horse Power of Engines.	Capacity of Incandescent Lamps in Kilowatts.	Capacity of Arc Lamps in Kilowatts.	Kilowatts of Motors.	Kilowatts Mixed Loads.	Number of Stations.
Boston Elevated Railway.....	24,360	241,287	4,356	15	353,454	76,100	22
Edison Electric Illuminating Company	54,424	292,816	*	*	*	*	69
Boston Consolidated Gas Company..	.....	.....	3,300	.....	6,000	2,000	2
Quaker Building Company.....	620	400	125	.....	106	.....	1
Hanover Street Trust.....	500	363	145	10	80	230	1
Totals.....	79,904	534,866	7,926	25	359,640	78,330	95

* Unknown. (Meter capacity connected to lines of Edison system, 1,117,323 kilowatts.)

RECOMMENDATIONS.

1. The policy of gradual replacement of old and antiquated fire stations should be continued. A Board of Survey has been organized by me in the department with a view to making a study of conditions and making recommendations which, when adopted, will bring about improved housing and living conditions. Locations which should receive first consideration are as follows:

Engine 3 and Ladder 3, now located at the corner of Bristol street and Harrison avenue, should be rebuilt and relocated somewhere in the vicinity of Harrison avenue and Wareham street. *Engine 23* on Northampton street could be included in this project.

Engine 8 and Ladder 1.—The former is located on Salem street, a very narrow, congested street. *Ladder 1* is an old station on Friend street. The property occupied by *Ladder 1* will probably be needed in connection with the new East Boston Traffic Tunnel development. A new house for both companies somewhere on Hanover street would serve the district more effectively.

Engine 16 and Ladder 6, now on River street, Dorchester Lower Mills, should be relocated somewhere in the vicinity of Gallivan Boulevard and Codman street.

Engine 20 and Ladder 27, now on Walnut street, near Neponset Bridge, should be relocated in the vicinity of Neponset avenue and Victory road.

Engine 25 and Ladder Company 8, at Fort Hill square, should receive consideration when funds are available for rebuilding.

A few of the older stations are in good locations but should be remodeled to provide proper accommodations for the men and apparatus. Among these are *Engine 13*, *Engine 22*, *Engine 24* and *Ladder 9*.

A very important matter which will require consideration within a short time is the enlargement of the repair shop of the Maintenance Division so that the department will have sufficient space for the storage of reserve apparatus and to give more efficient service in the replacement of disabled apparatus.

In the Fire Alarm Division the practice of replacing a specified number of old fire alarm boxes with boxes of the latest type should be continued. The policy of furnishing an up-to-date, fool-proof signal system is most essential in order that the Fire Department may receive prompt notice of fires.

Respectfully submitted,

EDWARD F. McLAUGHLIN,
Fire Commissioner.

RECAPITULATION OF EXPENDITURES, 1932.

Fire Department	\$4,377,844 00	
Wire Division	101,506 38	
New Fireboat	34,710 44	
New Fire Station, South Boston District	59,021 30	
New Fire Stations and Additions to and Improvement of Existing Fire Stations	67,051 96	
		<u>\$4,640,134 08</u>

ANNUAL REPORT OF REVENUE BOSTON
FIRE DEPARTMENT. YEAR OF 1932.

Permits for fires in open spaces, fireworks, blasting, transportation and storage of explosives, garage and gasoline storage, oil burners, etc.,	\$25,346 25
Sale of old material (condemned hose)	444 63
Sale of old material (junk)	104 35
Miscellaneous sales (apparatus, etc.)	289 06
Sale of badges	491 25
Property damage:	
Fire alarm boxes and posts	741 04
Fire apparatus	877 89
	<u>\$28,294 47</u>

CHIEF OF DEPARTMENT.

HENRY A. FOX.

The chief is in charge of the fire protection of the city, which is divided into three divisions, each commanded by a deputy chief, which are subdivided into fifteen districts, each commanded by a district chief.

Assistant Chief of Department,

DIVISION 1.

Deputy Chiefs, JOHN J. KELLEY and LOUIS C. STICKEL.

Headquarters, Ladder House 8, Fort Hill Square.
This division comprises Districts 1, 2, 3, 4, 5.

District 1.

District Chiefs, NAPEEN BOUTILIER and WILLIAM F. DONOVAN.

Headquarters, Ladder House 2, Paris Street,
East Boston.

Apparatus Located in the District.—Engines 5, 9, 11, 40, 47 (fireboat), Ladders 2, 21, 31.

District 2.

District Chiefs, PHILIP A. TAGUE and THOMAS F. WARD.

Headquarters, Engine House 50, Winthrop Street,
Charlestown.

Apparatus Located in the District.—Engines 27, 32, 36, 50, Ladders 9, 22, Rescue 3.

District 3.

District Chiefs, JOHN J. KENNEY and JOHN F. GOOD.
Headquarters, Ladder House 18, Pittsburgh Street.

Apparatus Located in the District.—Engines 25, 38, 39, 44 (fireboat), Ladders 8, 18, Water Towers 1 and 3,

District 4.

District Chiefs, AVERY B. HOWARD and JOHN F. McDONOUGH.

Headquarters, Engine House 4, Bulfinch Street.
Apparatus Located in the District.—Engines 4, 6, 8, 31 (fireboat), Ladders 1, 24.

District 5.

District Chiefs, JOHN F. WATSON and DENNIS J. COUGHLIN.

Headquarters, Engine House 26-35, Broadway.

Apparatus Located in the District.—Engines 7, 10, 26, 35, Ladder 17, Rescue 1, Water Tower 2.

DIVISION 2.

Deputy Chiefs, THOMAS H. DOWNEY and WILLIAM F. QUIGLEY.

Headquarters, Engine House 22, Warren Avenue.

This division comprises Districts 6, 7, 8, 11.

District 6.

District Chiefs, MICHAEL J. TEEHAN and EDWARD G. CHAMBERLAIN.

Headquarters, Engine House 1, Dorchester Street, South Boston.

Apparatus Located in the District.—Engines 1, 2, 15, 43, Ladders 5, 19, 20.

District 7.

District Chiefs, MICHAEL F. MINEHAN and SAMUEL J. POPE.

Headquarters, Engine House 22, Warren Avenue.

Apparatus Located in the District.—Engines 3, 22, 33, Ladders 3, 13, 15.

District 8.

District Chiefs, DANIEL MARTELL and CHARLES H. McDONNELL.

Headquarters, Ladder House 12; Tremont Street.

Apparatus Located in the District.—Engines 13, 14, 37, Ladders 12, 26.

District 11.

District Chiefs, THOMAS H. ANDREOLI and CORNELIUS J. O'BRIEN.

Headquarters, Engine House 41, Harvard Avenue, Brighton.

Apparatus Located in the District.—Engines 29, 34, 41, 51, Ladders 11, 14.

DIVISION 3.

Deputy Chiefs, WALTER M. McLEAN and FRANK A. SWEENEY.

Headquarters, Ladder House 23, Washington Street,
Grove Hall.

This division comprises Districts 9, 10, 12, 13, 14, 15.

District 9.

District Chiefs, WILLIAM H. McCORKLE and EDWARD J. LOCKE.

Headquarters, Engine House 12, Dudley Street.

Apparatus Located in the District.—Engines 12, 23, 24,
Ladders 4, 23, Rescue 2.

District 10.

Districts Chiefs, DANIEL J. HURLEY and EDWARD N. MONTGOMERY.

Headquarters, Engine House 17, Parish Street,
Meeting House Hill.

Apparatus Located in the District.—Engines 17, 18, 21,
Ladder 7.

District 12.

District Chiefs, TIMOTHY F. DONOVAN and JOSEPH W. SHEA.

Headquarters, Engine House 28, Centre Street,
Jamaica Plain.

Apparatus Located in the District.—Engines 28, 42,
53, Ladders 10, 30.

District 13.

District Chiefs, CHARLES A. DONOHOE and PATRICK J. V. KELLEY.

Headquarters, Engine House 45, Corner Washington
and Poplar Streets, Roslindale.

Apparatus Located in the District.—Engines 30, 45,
Ladders 16, 25.

District 14.

District Chiefs, JAMES MAHONEY and JAMES F. RYAN.

Headquarters, Engine House 46, Peabody Square,
Dorchester.

Apparatus Located in the District.—Engines 16, 20,
46, 52, Ladders 6, 27, 29.

District 15.

District Chiefs, JOHN P. MURRAY and MICHAEL D. SULLIVAN.

Headquarters, Engine House 48, Corner Harvard Avenue and Winthrop Street, Hyde Park.

Apparatus Located in the District.—Engines 19, 48, 49, Ladder 28.

ALARMS.

Building fires	3,958
Automobile fires	910
Rubbish, vacant lot	403
Rubbish near building	109
Dump	115
Brush or grass	1,020
Other outdoor fires	563
False	1,168
Accidental	169
Needless	694
Rescue	200
Marine	22
Out of city calls	64
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Total alarms	9,395

FIRES IN BUILDINGS.

Construction of Buildings.

Fire resistive	205
Second class	1,839
Frame	1,910
Other types	4
	<hr/>
	3,958

Point of Origin.

Basement	1,156
First floor	1,149
Second floor	567
Third floor	392
Above third floor	198
Roof	149
Outside	347
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	3,958

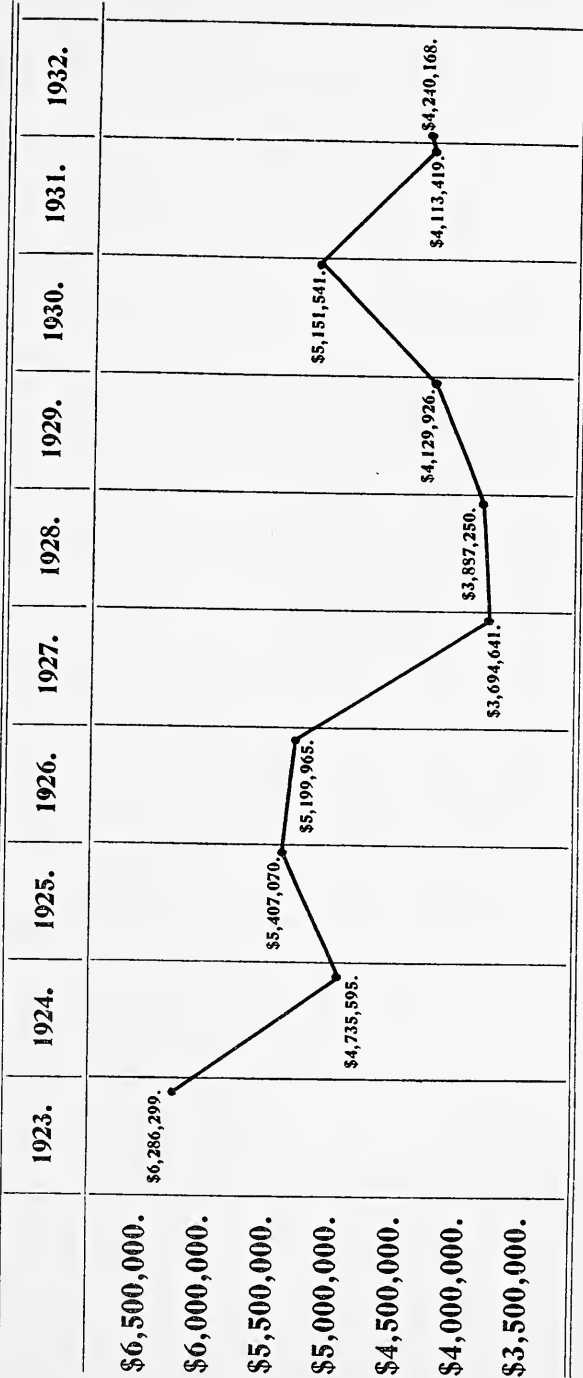
Extent of Fire.

Confined to point of origin	3,084
Confined to buildings	777
Spread to other buildings	97
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	3,958

Causes of Fires in Building.

Chimneys, soot burning	434
Defective chimney	69
Sparks from chimney	128
Defectively installed heater	158
Rubbish near heater	16
Hot ashes	86
Fuel oil burners	107
Starting fires—kerosene or gasolene	3
Careless smoking	973
Children and matches	205
Other careless use of matches	281
Defective wiring	119
Electric appliances and motors	153
Home dry cleaning	13
Flammable liquids near flame	24
Kerosene lamps, stoves	20
Grease, food on stove	118
Clothes, furniture too near fire	73
Spontaneous ignition	184
Fireworks	34
Thawing water pipes	18
Sparks from machines	31
City gas and appliances	36
Miscellaneous known causes	221
Incendiary or suspicious	139
Unknown	315
Total	3,958

GRAPHIC CHART OF FIRE LOSS FOR PAST TEN YEARS.



ALARMS, FIRE LOSSES AND INSURANCE.

MONTHS.	ALARMS.			ALARMS RECEIVED FROM								NO FIRE.					RUBBISH — GRASS.				
	Box.	Telephone.	Other Stills.	Members.	Police.	Watchman.	Outsider.	Automatic.	Unknown.	Total.	False.	Accidental.	Rescue.	Needless Bell.	Needless Still.	Automobiles.	Rubbish, Vacant Lot.	Rubbish near Building.	Dump.	Brush or Grass.	Other Outdoor.
January.....	425	234	17	4	10	10	545	10	97	676	97	10	10	26	31	58	18	4	5	44	27
February.....	367	290	39	8	10	11	572	28	67	696	67	21	6	20	36	66	9	3	3	55	13
March.....	567	347	36	11	15	13	804	18	89	950	88	13	13	28	31	78	24	13	5	179	40
April.....	609	439	57	11	10	9	944	20	111	1,105	111	18	20	24	30	59	59	13	15	395	51
May.....	504	259	92	11	21	10	705	16	92	855	92	10	18	17	31	77	60	15	14	90	73
June.....	419	223	76	9	14	10	575	10	100	718	100	7	16	17	35	70	54	13	21	24	82
July.....	566	222	163	16	17	6	782	17	113	951	113	13	16	19	28	72	73	16	21	101	126
August.....	393	93	108	6	12	5	477	8	86	594	86	6	25	14	22	82	29	8	2	15	28
September.....	362	93	125	4	6	6	457	16	91	580	91	16	16	23	33	69	18	7	9	18	43
October.....	427	100	130	2	9	7	470	14	155	657	155	11	20	31	44	70	21	10	11	13	32
November.....	533	182	164	8	8	8	721	28	106	879	106	25	22	32	60	119	24	3	3	102	32
December.....	415	208	111	4	8	11	621	28	62	734	62	19	18	28	34	90	14	4	6	74	16
Totals.....	5,587	2,690	1,118	94	140	106	7,673	213	1,169	9,395	1,168	169	200	279	415	910	403	109	115	1,020	563

ALARMS, FIRE LOSSES AND INSURANCE.—Concluded.

MONTHS.	ALARMS.										FIRE LOSSES AND INSURANCE.			
	Marine.	Out of City Calls.	Confined to Room.	Confined to Building.	Extended to Others.	Damage None.	Damage Slight.	Damage Considerable.	Totally Destroyed.	Loss.		Insurance.		
										Buildings.	Contents.	Buildings.	Contents.	
January.....	.....	3	279	46	18	129	208	5	1	\$473,689 40	\$424,677 98	\$6,229,254 00	\$2,667,800 00
February.....	1	1	313	76	6	178	210	6	1	201,687 57	141,317 94	5,871,995 00	2,204,810 25	
March.....	2	5	320	95	16	164	258	9	.....	309,790 64	159,807 71	9,792,873 50	1,721,207 00
April.....	3	12	292	82	11	142	241	1	1	187,762 84	159,630 01	8,276,662 64	1,926,339 00	
May.....	1	4	265	82	6	114	233	6	.....	161,063 21	120,238 70	11,546,556 00	4,086,523 00
June.....	3	8	204	58	6	80	184	3	1	138,053 39	157,564 89	7,499,972 72	1,140,812 00	
July.....	3	8	258	78	6	91	245	5	1	175,131 83	218,217 56	8,259,550 00	6,336,272 00	
August.....	1	5	202	61	8	74	186	8	3	210,300 06	111,701 69	5,111,353 00	884,610 00	
September.....	2	4	195	34	2	90	134	5	2	70,534 51	35,902 55	4,899,428 00	1,073,058 00	
October.....	4	3	191	36	5	86	143	3	.....	108,064 10	34,682 03	4,001,773 00	3,000,869 00
November.....	1	5	268	69	8	147	193	5	.....	142,839 98	141,355 12	5,171,054 00	1,388,655 00
December.....	1	6	297	60	5	151	207	3	1	153,357 75	202,776 63	5,830,649 00	1,645,025 00	
Totals.....	22	64	3,084	777	97	1,446	2,442	59	11	\$2,332,275 28	\$1,907,892 81	\$82,491,125 86	\$28,075,980 25	

CAUSES OF FIRES AND ALARMS, FROM JANUARY 1, 1932, TO JANUARY 1, 1933.

Automobile.....	910	Other careless use of matches.....	281
Rubbish, vacant lot.....	403	Defective wiring.....	119
Rubbish, near building...	109	Electric appliances and motors.....	153
Dump.....	115	Home dry cleaning.....	13
Brush or grass.....	1,020	Flammable liquids near flame.....	24
Other outdoor fires.....	563	Kerosene lamps, stoves..	20
False.....	1,168	Grease, food on stove....	118
Accidental.....	169	Clothes, furniture too near fire.....	73
Needless bell and still....	694	Spontaneous ignition....	184
Rescue.....	200	Fireworks.....	34
Marine.....	22	Thawing water pipes....	18
Out of city calls.....	64	Sparks from machines....	31
Chimneys, soot burning..	434	City gas and appliances..	36
Defective chimney.....	69	Miscellaneous known causes.....	221
Sparks from chimney.....	128	Incendiary or suspicious..	139
Defectively installed heater.....	158	Unknown.....	315
Rubbish near heater.....	16		
Hot ashes.....	86		
Fuel oil burners.....	107		
Starting fires (kerosene or gasolene).....	3		
Careless smoking.....	973	Total.....	<u>9,395</u>
Children and matches....	205		

1932	FIRES EXTINGUISHED BY						
	Extinguishers.	Buckets or Cans.	Chemical or Booster.	Hydrant Streams.	Pumper Streams.	Miscellaneous.	Citizens.
January.....	45	26	136	29	48	48	11
February.....	67	32	162	20	49	49	16
March.....	43	22	200	11	92	37	26
April.....	49	29	185	12	66	29	15
May.....	36	19	164	11	63	30	30
June.....	28	19	112	7	57	17	28
July.....	22	34	158	18	62	23	25
August.....	32	19	101	11	62	27	19
September.....	28	31	93	6	38	25	10
October.....	31	17	91	9	29	37	18
November.....	53	28	145	9	53	42	15
December.....	59	25	146	12	45	51	24
Totals.....	493	301	1,693	155	664	415	237

FIRES WHERE LOSSES EXCEEDED \$15,000.

DATE.	Location and Owner.	Loss.
1932.		
Jan. 4.....	507-515 Tremont street, I. O. O. F. Building <i>et al.</i>	\$323,577 65
Jan. 4.....	384 and 386 Atlantic avenue, Foster Wharf Corporation <i>et al.</i>	19,715 67
Jan. 8.....	109 and 111 Beach street, Service Manufacturing Company <i>et al.</i>	19,020 69
Jan. 14.....	103 and 103A Charles street, Charles Goldberg, Incorporated, <i>et al.</i>	16,815 43
Jan. 15.....	95-99 South street, Hamilton Perkins Company <i>et al.</i> ..	58,121 87
Jan. 23.....	134-140 Longwood avenue, S. Wachsman <i>et al.</i>	21,402 00
Jan. 28.....	137 Beach street, A. Shapiro <i>et al.</i>	169,636 46
Jan. 31.....	532 Commonwealth avenue, Kenmore Restaurant <i>et al.</i> ..	17,463 48
Feb. 15.....	24 Hewins street, M. Bahn <i>et al.</i>	16,727 20
Feb. 21.....	547 Blue Hill avenue, B. Brooker <i>et al.</i>	18,712 13
Feb. 26.....	102-114 Commercial street, Standard Products Company <i>et al.</i>	16,944 12
March 16.....	253-259 Bowdoin street; Hamilton Hardware Company <i>et al.</i>	25,240 98
March 17.....	515-527 Washington street, F. & M. Skirt Company, <i>et al.</i>	34,390 17
April 9.....	112-118 Canal street, Automatic Radio Manufacturing Company.	90,828 35
May 6.....	241-249 Friend street, P. Bernstein <i>et al.</i>	15,761 61
May 24.....	446 Albany street, Huntington Wool Company <i>et al.</i> ..	24,055 90
June 7.....	68 Northampton street, Cable Raincoat Company....	55,097 12
June 30.....	54-58 Piedmont street, Hollywood Films Corporation <i>et al.</i>	48,554 83
July 8.....	518-536 Washington street, R. H. White Company....	112,905 57
July 21.....	146-154 Lincoln street, H. S. Petticoat Company, Inc., <i>et al.</i>	22,488 84
Aug. 3.....	702 Beacon street, W. H. Bradford Company <i>et al.</i>	33,123 92
Aug. 14.....	Charles River Speedway, Metropolitan Driving Club..	56,000 00
Aug. 17.....	484-488 Washington street, Grosberg's, Inc.....	19,207 10
Aug. 20.....	2 and 4 Nazing street, S. Fredberg <i>et al.</i>	17,709 97
Sept. 4.....	370 West First street, J. C. Murphy Lumber Company..	21,653 61
Oct. 13.....	70 Freeport street, Knox & Morse Company.....	16,709 57
Oct. 13.....	8-12 Central avenue, T. J. Halpin <i>et al.</i>	20,123 70
Nov. 17.....	331 Newbury street, H. Kaufman <i>et al.</i>	92,062 42
Nov. 27.....	1282 and 1282A Blue Hill avenue, A. Miller <i>et al.</i>	15,347 50
Dec. 5.....	51 Melcher street, Ryder & Brown.....	121,863 90
Dec. 20.....	854 and 856 Washington street, J. Gorakian & Son....	35,829 99
Dec. 24.....	1458 and 1460 Washington street, S. Zeghibe <i>et al.</i>	18,541 95
Dec. 28.....	162 and 164 Lincoln street, Sobel Shoe Company <i>et al.</i> ..	18,312 73

STATISTICS.

Population, January 1, 1933 (estimated)	805,400
Area, square miles	47.81
Number brick, etc., buildings	43,866
Number of wooden buildings	93,645
Fires in brick, etc., buildings	2,044
Fires in wooden buildings	1,914
Fires out of city	64
Not in buildings, false and needless	<u>5,373</u>

Total alarms 9,395

FIRE LOSS FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1932.

Buildings, loss insured	\$2,332,275 28
Contents, loss insured	<u>1,907,892 81</u>

Total loss insured \$4,240,168 09

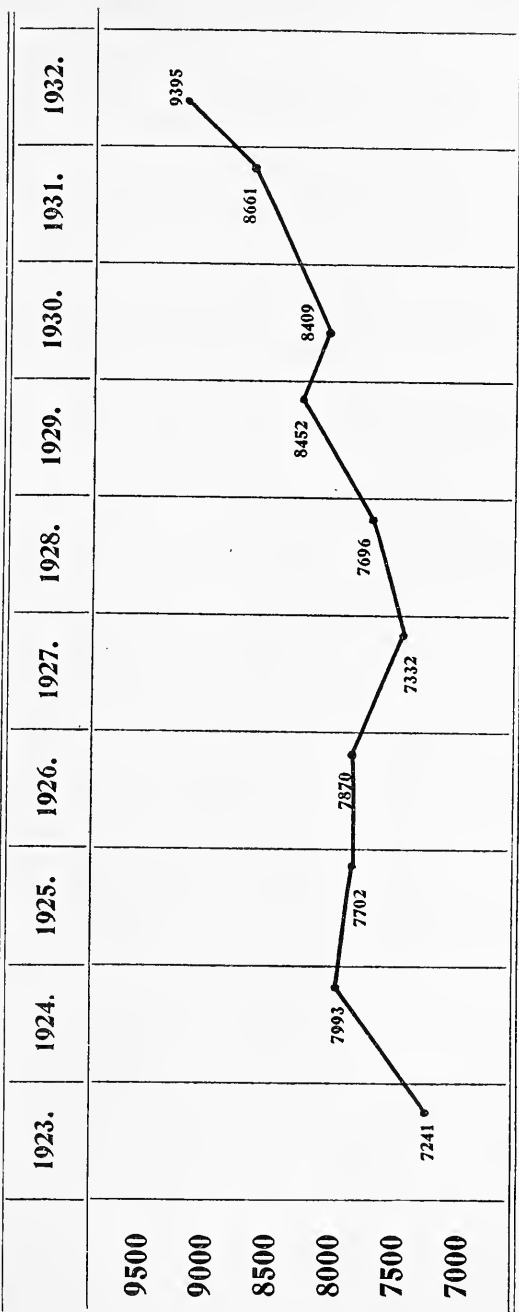
Marine loss \$124,218 38

YEARLY LOSS FOR THE LAST FIFTEEN YEARS.

Marine Loss not Included.

Year ending January 1, 1919	\$2,822,109 00
" " " 1, 1920	2,577,584 00
" " " 1, 1921	3,139,566 00
" " " 1, 1922	4,010,201 00
" " " 1, 1923	3,304,595 00
" " " 1, 1924	6,286,299 00
" " " 1, 1925	4,735,595 00
" " " 1, 1926	5,407,070 00
" " " 1, 1927	5,199,965 00
" " " 1, 1928	3,694,642 00
" " " 1, 1929	3,887,250 00
" " " 1, 1930	4,129,926 00
" " " 1, 1931	4,593,622 00
" " " 1, 1932	4,115,419 00
" " " 1, 1933	4,240,168 00

GRAPHIC CHART OF ALARMS FOR PAST TEN YEARS.



ALARMS FOR THE PAST TEN YEARS.

YEAR.	Bell.	Still and Automatic.	Totals.
1932.....	5,587	3,808	9,395
1931.....	4,727	3,934	8,661
1930.....	4,601	3,808	8,409
1929.....	4,473	3,979	8,452
1928.....	3,867	3,829	7,696
1927.....	3,492	3,840	7,332
1926.....	3,762	4,108	7,870
1925.....	3,798	3,904	7,702
1924.....	3,640	4,353	7,993
1923.....	3,239	4,002	7,241

Each fire is treated as having only one alarm.

JOHN E. FITZGERALD MEDAL.

John J. Leary, for 1922.
 Daniel J. O'Brien, for 1923.
 Thomas F. Kilduff, for 1924.
 Dennis M. Condon, for 1927.
 Joseph P. Hanton, for 1929.

WALTER SCOTT MEDAL.

Dennis M. Condon, for 1922.
 James H. Curran, for 1923.
 Edward J. Crowley, for 1924.
 Gilbert W. Jones, for 1927.
 John J. Boyle, for 1929.

ROLL OF MERIT.

Carl V. Anderson.	Gilbert W. Jones.
Carl S. Bowers.	Henry J. Kelly.
James J. Buchanan.	Martin A. Kenealy.
William O. Cheswell.	John J. Kennedy.
Dennis M. Condon.	Frederick F. Leary.
Walter P. Corbett.	John J. Martin.
Michael J. Dacy.	Edward McDonough.
James E. Downey.	James F. McMahon.
Thomas H. Downey.	Thomas J. Muldoon.
Dennis Driscoll.	Edward J. Murphy.
Joseph P. Hanton.	Arthur A. Ryan.
Timothy J. Heffron.	Michael J. Teehan.

