

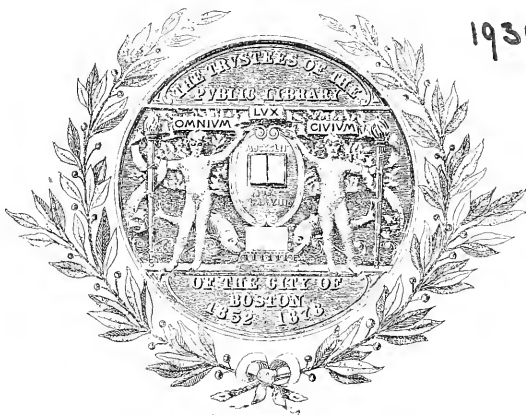
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Boston Fire Department



ANNUAL REPORT

FIRE DEPARTMENT
AND WIRE DIVISION

CITY OF BOSTON

YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1936



CITY OF BOSTON
PRINTING DEPARTMENT

1937

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

FIRE DEPARTMENT AND WIRE DIVISION

OF THE

CITY OF BOSTON

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1936



CITY OF BOSTON
PRINTING DEPARTMENT
1937

Boston Fire Department
Feb 3, 1940

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OFFICIALS OF THE DEPARTMENT.

EDWARD F. McLAUGHLIN,
Fire Commissioner.

WILLIAM D. SLATTERY,
Acting Executive Secretary of the Department.

SAMUEL J. POPE,
Chief of Department.

GEORGE L. FICKETT,
Superintendent of Fire Alarm Division.

PETER F. DOLAN,
Superintendent of Wire Division.

EDWARD E. WILLIAMSON,
Superintendent of Maintenance Division.

THOMAS H. DOWNEY,
Deputy Chief in Charge of Fire Prevention Division.

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



ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
FIRE DEPARTMENT
FOR THE YEAR 1936.

Boston, January 31, 1937.

HON. FREDERICK W. MANSFIELD,
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, 1936, as required by section 24, chapter 4, of the Revised Ordinances of 1925.

FIRE LOSS.

The total fire loss for the City of Boston, estimated by the insurance companies, amounted to \$2,952,958.42, of which \$1,947,607.32 was on buildings and \$1,005,351.10 was on contents.

The fires showing the greatest loss during the year are as follows:

November 27, 1936, 44 Charles River avenue, Boston Globe Publishing Company <i>et al.</i> . . .	\$375,893 94
April 8, 1936, Lake street, St. John's Seminary . . .	234,144 85
December 8, 1936, 261-287 A street, Boston Plate Glass Company	164,594 35
August 10, 1936, 2333-2337 Washington street, Wellworth Market <i>et al.</i>	95,713 00
August 30, 1936, 8 Winter street, Carpenter Estate <i>et al.</i>	73,707 65
July 27, 1936, 486-498 Albany street, Kimball Realty Company <i>et al.</i>	66,554 12

February 5, 1936, 463-469 Washington street, Hudson Apparel Company <i>et al.</i>	\$60,427 04
November 18, 1936, 900 East First street, White Fuel Corporation	58,713 40
November 17, 1936, 84 and 86 Fulton street, G. Zuffante Company <i>et al.</i>	37,862 54
August 14, 1936, 34 and 36 South street, Acker- man & Patterson <i>et al.</i>	33,180 03

FINANCES.

Expenditures of the department decreased slightly over 1935. I submit below a table showing how expenditures of 1936 compared with those of previous years.

Year ending December 31, 1936	\$4,123,856 68
" " " 31, 1935	4,161,328 20
" " " 31, 1934	3,677,085 02
" " " 31, 1933	3,804,226 83
" " " 31, 1932	4,377,844 00
" " " 31, 1931	4,620,818 60
" " " 31, 1930	4,642,216 53
" " " 31, 1929	4,552,265 18
" " " 31, 1928	4,357,568 28
" " " 31, 1927	4,183,945 99

FIRE PREVENTION.

The personnel of the Fire Prevention Division has been diligent in its duties during the year and continued vigilance has been practised to reduce the fire hazard.

During the year all classes of buildings were inspected. Many one and two-family houses were inspected, with the permission of the occupants.

Number of inspections	97,935
Number of re-inspections	14,319
Number of corrections	15,467
Number of complaints	13,599
Number of conditions found corrected on re-inspec- tions	12,593
Number of personal inspections	2,476
Oil burners inspected	1,672

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

Reports sent to the Building Department	1,136
Reports sent to School Buildings Department	25
Reports sent to Health Department	8
Personal services by constable	451

The following inspections were made by district officers and district privates:

Buildings inspected by district officers	20,311
Inspections by district privates	66,243
Theatre inspections	4,123
Schoolhouse inspections	3,802
Public buildings inspections	849
Carhouse inspections	72
Deer Island monthly inspections	12
Long Island monthly inspections	12

A brief account of the activities of the Arson Unit, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 383 of the Acts of 1931, is as follows:

Number of Police Inspectors assigned to the Fire Prevention Division from Police Headquarters	4
Number of Fire Prevention Inspectors on Arson Squad	6
Number of Investigations by Arson Squad	264
(a) Reported as being suspicious	64
(b) Reported as being unknown or undetermined,	128
(c) Miscellaneous	72
Number of persons interviewed at Fire Prevention Office,	43
Number of hearings held at Fire Alarm Office (Fenway)	14
Number of hearings held, which, on account of insufficient evidence, were not presented to District Attorney	9
Number of cases presented to District Attorney for consideration as to prosecution	7
Number of cases arraigned in Municipal Court	4
Cases held for Grand Jury	3

FIRE APPARATUS.

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

- 1 Mack, type 19, 1,000-gallon centrifugal pumping engine.
- 1 Seagrave, V12, 1,000-gallon pumping engine.
- 1 Ahrens-Fox, 1,000-gallon triple combination pumping engine.
- 1 Seagrave, V12, 85-foot aerial ladder truck.
- 2 Studebaker four-door sedans.
- 6 Studebaker two-door sedans.
- 1 Packard sedan.
- 3 85 H. P. Ford trucks with pick-up bodies.

Twelve small cars were traded in when the new ones were purchased.

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

TYPE	In Service.	In Reserve.
Pumping engines.....	52	11
Hose cars.....	48	8
Aerial ladder trucks.....	23	8
City service ladder trucks.....	8	4
Water towers.....	3	1
Mack wrecker.....	1	—
Rescue cars.....	3	1
Fuel cars.....	1	1
School car.....	—	1
Foamite wagons.....	—	1
Lighting plants.....	2	—
Chief officers' cars.....	40	13
Ford coupes.....	5	—
Emergency Ford cars.....	12	—
Commercial trucks.....	6	—

W. P. A.

W. P. A. Project No. 7866 started May 25, 1936 and was completed August 10, 1936. The work consisted of installing a reinforced concrete main floor in the quarters of Ladder Company 9, including changes in heating, plumbing, etc.

Project No. 5069 was started in December, 1935, and was completed in November, 1936. The interiors of sixteen department buildings were painted during that time.

Project No. 4843 consisted of painting interiors of eight department buildings. It was begun and completed in 1936.

Project No. 5578 begun in 1936, and consisting of painting interiors of fire stations, bricklaying, carpentry, roofing, plumbing, steamfitting, concrete work and general building repairs, was still going on December 31, 1936. During this time work was done in thirty-four department buildings.

HIGH PRESSURE SERVICE.

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

	Station No. 1.	Station No. 2.
Total alarms to which pump responded.....	243	209
Water discharged *.....	204,000 gallons	132,500 gallons

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

HYDRANTS.

The following is a list of the hydrants in service on December 31, 1936:

	Public.	Private.
Ordinary post.....	3,168	129
Boston post.....	2,402	26
Lowry.....	595	33
Boston Lowry.....	314	5
Batchelder & Finneran post.....	4,599	8
Boston.....	102	111
High Pressure.....	505	—
Chapman post.....	35	55
Ludlow post.....	2	13
Matthew post.....	—	4
Coffin post.....	1	—
Total.....	11,723	384

FIRE COLLEGE.

The sessions of the Fire College were conducted during the year (except during the vacation period). Approximately one hundred and sixty (160) members of the department received instructions at the college during the year.

DEPARTMENT DRILLS.

Regular weekly drills were held by all companies in the department. In addition, each company in the department was given a thorough drill by the department drillmaster.

PUMP SCHOOL.

Three classes of the motor pump school were held during the year, at which fifteen (15) members of the department and three (3) members of outside departments were instructed in the care and operation of motor fire pumps.

CHAUFFEURS' SCHOOL.

Eight (8) members of the department received instructions in the chauffeurs' school during the year and were certified as operators of department motor vehicles. All members rated as chauffeurs were given instructions in the care and operation of motor vehicles.

MUTUAL AID.

The department responded to fifty-seven (57) alarms of fire outside of the city limits, divided as follows:

Milton	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	31
Brookline	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	4
Somerville	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	19
Chelsea	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1
Newton	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2

RADIO BROADCASTS.

Talks were given from time to time over Radio Station WBZ in which the Fire Commissioner, Chief of Department, Deputy Chief in Charge of Fire Prevention, Superintendent of the Fire Alarm Division and the Superintendent of the Maintenance Division participated. The public was asked to cooperate with the Fire Department in its efforts to reduce the number of fires and the fire loss. The public was instructed in fire prevention and was informed concerning important department operations.

FIRE ALARM SERVICE.

During the year the Fire Alarm Service has been maintained at its usual high standard of efficiency. Fifteen (15) new public fire alarm boxes were installed and twenty-four (24) old boxes were replaced.

Three (3) Collins radio transmitters, each of 50 watts capacity, were installed on the fireboats, replacing obsolete sets.

Defective cables were replaced and necessary extensions of the underground system were made.

OPERATING RECORDS.

First alarms	5,239
Second alarms	69
Third alarms	19
Fourth alarms	7
Fifth alarms	3
	<hr/>
	<u>5,337</u>

BOX ALARMS RECEIVED BUT NOT TRANSMITTED.

Same box received two or more times for same fire	422
Adjacent boxes received for same fire	259
Received from boxes but treated as stills	6
	<hr/>
	<u>687</u>

STILL ALARMS RECEIVED AND TRANSMITTED.

Received from citizens by telephone	2,691
Received from Police Department by telephone	327
Received from Fire Department stations	1,203
Received from boxes but treated as stills	6
Mutual aid alarms (adjacent cities and towns) treated as stills	57
Emergency service treated as stills	312
	<hr/>
	<u>4,596</u>

Still alarms received by telephone for which box alarms were afterwards received and transmitted	221
Still alarms received by telephone from which box alarms, not received, were transmitted (11 p. m. to 7 a. m.)	306
	<hr/>
	<u>527</u>

AUTOMATIC AND A. D. T. ALARMS.

Boston Automatic Fire Alarm Company:	
Transmitted by company to this department	170
Box alarms received and transmitted after auto- matic alarms had been struck	2
Box alarms not received but transmitted after automatic alarm had been struck (11 p. m. to 7 a. m.)	40
Automatic alarms received at fire alarm office but not transmitted	11

American District Telegraph Company:	
Transmitted by company to this department	117
Box alarms received and transmitted after A. D. T. alarms had been struck	4
Box alarms not received but transmitted after A. D. T. alarms had been struck (11 p. m. to 7 a. m.)	33
A. D. T. alarms received at fire alarm office but not transmitted.	12

SUMMARY OF ALARMS.

Alarms received:	
Box alarms received and struck	4,860
Box alarms received but not struck	687
Mutiple alarms	98
Still alarms — all classes	4,596
Boston automatic alarms	170
A. D. T. alarms	117
	<hr/>
	10,528
Box alarms not received but transmitted (11 p. m. to 7 a. m.)	379
	<hr/>
	<u>10,907</u>
Exclude following:	
Multiples	98
Box alarms received but not transmitted	687
Still alarms for which other alarms were transmitted	527
Automatic alarms for which other alarms were transmitted	42
Automatic alarms received but not transmitted	11
A. D. T. alarms for which other alarms were transmitted	37
A. D. T. alarms received but not transmitted	12
	<hr/>
	<u>1,414</u>
Total alarms, with eliminations, to which apparatus responded:	
First alarms	5,239
Still alarms	4,069
Automatic alarms	117
A. D. T. alarms	68
	<hr/>
	<u>9,493</u>

MULTIPLE ALARM FIRES.

With two alarms	54
With three alarms	12
With four alarms	4
With five alarms	3

MUTUAL AID RESPONSE.

To Milton	31
To Newton	2
To Brookline	4
To Somerville	19
To Chelsea	1
	<u>57</u>

FIRE ALARM BOX RECORDS.

Boxes from which no alarms were received	454
Box tests and inspections	12,428

NOTE.— All street box doors are tested weekly.

FALSE ALARMS.

Box alarms received and struck	1,328
Box alarms received but not struck	12
Box alarms treated as stills	4
* Telephone	19
A. D. T.	4
Automatic	2
	<u>1,369</u>

ALARM SERVICE.

Fire Alarms were received and transmitted with no delays or failures. Of the 4,860 box alarms received and transmitted to the department, 1,328 were false, about 27 per cent. This compares with 5,286 received in 1935 with 1,595 false, about 30 per cent. The Police Department made forty-one (41) arrests of persons sounding false alarms and thirty-six (36) convictions were obtained in court, as compared with one hundred and twenty (120) arrests in 1935 and eighty (80) convictions.

* Five of these alarms were struck as box alarms.

FIRE ALARM BOXES IN SERVICE.

Total number	1,698
Owned by Fire Department	1,247
Owned by School Buildings Department	257
Owned by Boston Automatic Fire Alarm Company	46
Privately owned	148
Total boxes on posts	874
Total boxes on poles	470
Total boxes on buildings	176
Total boxes in buildings	178

FIRE DEPARTMENT BOXES.

On box posts	797
On poles	427
On buildings	18
In buildings	5
Equipped with keyless doors	497
Equipped with quick-action doors	744
Equipped with auxiliary attachments	3
Succession type	1,025
Designated by red lights	891

SCHOOLHOUSE BOXES.

On box posts	74
On poles	27
On buildings	101
In buildings	55
Equipped with keyless doors	164
Equipped with quick-action doors	49
Equipped with key doors	44
Equipped with auxiliary attachments	253
Succession type	166
Designated by red lights	64

BOSTON AUTOMATIC FIRE ALARM BOXES.

On poles	4
On buildings	15
In buildings	27
Equipped with keyless doors	21
Equipped with quick-action doors	5
Equipped with key doors	20
Equipped with auxiliary attachments	44
Succession type	10

PRIVATE BOXES.

On posts	3
On poles	12
On buildings	42
In buildings	91

Equipped with keyless doors	51
Equipped with quick-action doors	52
Equipped with key doors	45
Equipped with auxiliary attachments	23
Succession type	107

FIRE ALARM BOXES IN DISTRICTS.

District 1	103	District 9	116
District 2	72	District 10	140
District 3	46	District 11	157
District 4	87	District 12	107
District 5	75	District 13	174
District 6	102	District 14	153
District 7	104	District 15	125
District 8	136		
Division 1	383		
Division 2	499		
Division 3	815		

Also one box in Chelsea.

SUMMARY OF WORK DONE.

	Feet.
Line wire used in new work (approximately)	7,100
Line wire used for replacements (approximately)	14,200
Aerial cable installed, new work	1,325
Conductors in same	2,650
Aerial cable replaced	1,620
Conductors in same	3,880
Underground cable installed, new work	15,108
Conductors in same	121,663
Underground cable replaced	15,251
Conductors in same	328,023
Conduits laid underground	2,659
Ducts in same	2,721
Ducts abandoned. Owned by department	311
Manholes built	7
Handholes built	5
Fire alarm boxes installed by Fire Department	15
Fire alarm boxes installed by School Buildings Department	1
Fire alarm boxes relocated	2
Fire alarm boxes removed from service	5
Box posts installed	12
Box posts relocated	1
Box posts reset or replaced by new	16
Cable posts (small size) installed	3
Cable posts (large size) installed	1
Underground cable boxes (attached to poles) installed	2
Underground cable boxes removed from service	2

WIRE DIVISION.

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

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

Following is a table showing a summary of the work of the interior division of the Wire Division for 1936:

Notices of new work received	15,660
Number of permits issued to turn on current	11,935
Number of incandescent lamps inspected	2,115,049
Number of motors inspected	16,503
Number of inspections made	31,330
Number of inspections made of theatres, places of amusement and public halls	1,632

The income received from permits to perform electrical work was \$46,392.42.

During the year there were ninety-three (93) fires in buildings, eleven (11) manhole troubles, twelve (12) fires on poles, nine (9) miscellaneous troubles and six (6) accidents, two (2) of which were fatal, investigated.

EXTERIOR DIVISION.

The underground district for the year 1936, as prescribed under authority of chapter 101 of the Acts of 1931, comprised the following streets:

Brighton.— Washington street, from sixty-six (66) feet east of Market street to Tremont street at Oak square.

Hyde Park.— Fairmount avenue, from River street to Water street.

East Boston.— Condor street, from Border street to East Eagle street; Brooks street, from Condor street to Bremen street; Orleans street, from Marginal street to Porter street.

Jamaica Plain.— Pondred circle, formerly Pond circle, from 231 Pond street to end of street at Pond street.

South Boston.— West Third street, from one hundred (100) feet east of D street to Dorchester street; H street, from East First street to Columbia road; I street, from East Broadway to Columbia road.

making a total distance of four (4) 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, 1937, one hundred and seventy-four (174) poles and one million, three hundred and seventeen thousand, seven hundred and forty-two (1,317,742) linear feet of wire.

During the past year the inspectors of this division have reported two hundred and nine (209) poles decayed at base and fifteen (15) poles leaning or a total of two hundred and twenty-four (224) poles, of which one hundred and fifty (150) have been replaced 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, 1936, to December 31, 1936, inclusive:

Number of new poles set in new locations	7
Number of poles reset, replaced or straightened	688
Number of poles removed	171
Number of poles now standing in public streets	17,320
Number of defects reported	1,073
Number of defects corrected	598
(Other defects in process of correction.)	
Number of notices of overhead construction	3,576
Number of overhead inspections	21,326
Number of overhead reports	23,856
Amount of overhead wires removed by owners, in feet,	325,068

UNDERGROUND CONSTRUCTION.

The ducts used for the underground conduits of the drawing-in system are of the following types:

1. Vitrified clay (laid in concrete).
2. Fiber (laid in concrete).
3. Creosote wood.
4. Iron pipe.

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

The electrical approvals for underground electrical construction numbered 1,407.

Number of inspections of underground electrical construction	2,191
Number of reports of underground electrical construction	4,249

Table Showing Underground Work for the Year 1936.

COMPANY.	Feet of Conduit.	Feet of Duct.	Feet of Cable.	Number of Manholes.	Number of Services.
Boston Elevated Railway Company.	411	2,400	2,569.2	2	
Boston Low Tension Wire Association.	290	1,160			
Boston Consolidated Gas Company.	1,113	1,439	12,913.8	2	22
Edison Electric Illuminating Company.	32,970	87,182	510,781	66	580
Boston Fire Department (Fire Alarm Branch).	2,053	1,823	15,108	8	6
Boston Police Department (Police Signal Service).	345	345			
New England Telephone and Telegraph Company.	5,457	5,697	.....	.....	37
Postal Telegraph Cable Company.	50	200			
Western Union Telegraph Company.	.....	.....	2,293		
Totals.....	42,689	100,246	543,665	78	645

NOTE.—“Split Fibre Solid Mains System” of the Edison Electric Illuminating Company is included in the above figures, comprising 200 feet of conduit and 400 feet of duct.

Table Showing the Amount and Distribution of Boston's Electrical Power.

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 of Mixed Load.	Number of Stations.
Boston Elevated Railway Company..	24,360	241,287	3,879	15	222,962	49,630	15
Edison Electric Illuminating Company.	40,232	265,416	.....	1,177,028	.....	.....	76
Boston Consolidated Gas Company..	None	None	3,200	300	6,800	2,000	2
Quaker Building Company.....	620	400	125	None	106	.....	2
Hanover Street Trust.....	400	359	125	None	75	200	1
Totals.....	65,612	507,462	7,329	1,177,343	229,943	51,830	96

RECOMMENDATIONS.

The principal objective of the Fire Department is the protection of life and property against fire, with the thought always in mind to bring about a substantial reduction in the fire loss. In order that these purposes may be accomplished this department must at all times be maintained in a very high state of efficiency.

Certain improvements are necessary during the coming year to maintain a high standard of efficiency in the department.

MAN POWER.

I strongly recommend that serious consideration be given to the filling of all vacancies in the fire-fighting force during the coming year. During the past few years the personnel of the department has been greatly reduced as no appointments have been made to the fire-fighting force since 1933. In order to maintain the department at an efficient operating strength new appointments should be made and all vacancies in the positions of company and superior officers should be filled.

FIRE APPARATUS.

A certain percentage of old major apparatus should be replaced each year in order to keep the rolling stock of the department in first-class condition. A sane program of replacements each year is absolutely imperative in order to maintain the apparatus at a proper standard; otherwise the time will come when it will be necessary to expend large sums of money during one year to replace old major apparatus. It is sounder economy to replace a few pieces each year than to wait until necessity forces the replacement of a large number at one particular time.

NEW FIREBOAT.

A new fireboat should be built and placed in service in the department to replace Fireboat Engine 31 which was built in 1895 and which is now forty-two (42) years old. Once each year the boats are taken out of service for annual inspection by the United States Steamboat Inspectors. Such repairs as are required by the inspectors are made before the boats are placed back in service. As the boats grow older the annual repair bill becomes more and more extensive. The replacement of the fireboat "Angus J. McDonald," Engine 31, by a new boat more modern in type will result in a tremendous increase in the waterfront fire protection and greatly reduce the repair bill of the department. In the report of the National Board of Fire Underwriters, issued in December, 1936, recommendation was made that early consideration be

given to the replacement of one of our fireboats which is old and in poor condition. I urgently recommend consideration of this proposition.

BUILDINGS.

The subject of new building construction is one which is under consideration at all times. There are several old fire stations in use which were not built to house motor fire apparatus. They have been remodeled from time to time to serve the city temporarily. When the finances of the city permit the policy of gradual replacement of old and antiquated fire houses should again be put into effect to bring about improved housing and living conditions. Consideration should also be given to the consolidation of certain fire stations in order to increase the operating efficiency of the department.

Yours very truly,

EDWARD F. McLAUGHLIN,
Fire Commissioner.

RECAPITULATION OF EXPENDITURES, 1936.

Fire Department	\$4,123,856 68
Wire Division	98,994 63
	<hr/>
	\$4,222,851 31
	<hr/> <hr/>

ANNUAL REPORT OF REVENUE, BOSTON FIRE DEPARTMENT, YEAR OF 1936.

Permits for fires in open spaces; fireworks; blasting; transportation and storage of explosives; garage and gasoline storage; oil burners; etc.	\$24,422 50
Sale of old material (condemned hose)	228 11
Sale of old material (junk)	363 59
Miscellaneous sales	21 32
Sale of badges	391 50
Property damage:	
Fire alarm boxes and posts	654 95
Fire apparatus	748 16
	<hr/>
	\$26,830 13
	<hr/> <hr/>

CHIEF OF DEPARTMENT.

SAMUEL J. POPE.

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.

DIVISION 1.

Deputy Chiefs, JOHN J. KENNEY 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, Engine House 5, Marion 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 MICHAEL J. AYLWARD.

Headquarters, Engine House 50, Winthrop Street,
Charlestown.

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

District 3.

District Chiefs, WILLIAM A. DONOVAN and CHARLES D. ROBERTSON.

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, JAMES F. SHEEHAN and FRANKLIN B. SANBORN.

Headquarters, Engine House 4, Bowdoin Square.

Apparatus Located in the District.—Engines 4, 6, 8, 31 (fireboat), Ladders 1, 24, Rescue 3.

District 5.

District Chiefs, JOHN F. WATSON and DANIEL CROWLEY.

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, WILLIAM F. QUIGLEY and JOHN F. McDONOUGH.

Headquarters, Engine House 22, Warren Avenue.

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

District 6.

District Chiefs, JAMES J. KANE 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 WILLIAM J. MAHONEY.

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, Engine House 37, 560 Huntington Avenue.

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

District 11.

District Chiefs, THOMAS H. ANDREOLI and JOSEPH W. SHEA.

Headquarters, Engine House 41, Harvard Avenue, Brighton.

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

DIVISION 3.

Deputy Chiefs, FRANK A. SWEENEY and DENNIS J. COUGHLIN.

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 JOHN J. O'BRIEN.

Headquarters, Engine House 12, Dudley Street.

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

District 10.

District 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 THOMAS F. WARD.

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 EDWARD F. McCARTHY.

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 WALTER C. GLYNN.

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, WILLIAM HART and ALLEN J. JARVIS.

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	3,637
Automobile fires	847
Rubbish, vacant lot	340
Rubbish near building	175
Dump	116
Brush or grass	848
Other outdoor fires	731
False	1,356
Accidental	245
Needless	666
Rescue	451
Marine	23
Out of city calls	73
Total alarms	<u>9,508</u>

FIRES IN BUILDINGS.

Construction of Buildings.

Fire resistive	178
Second class	1,912
Frame	1,541
Other types	6
Total	<u>3,637</u>

Point of Origin.

Basement	1,140
First floor	1,019
Second floor	426
Third floor	281
Above third floor	181
Roof	123
Outside	467
Total	<u>3,637</u>

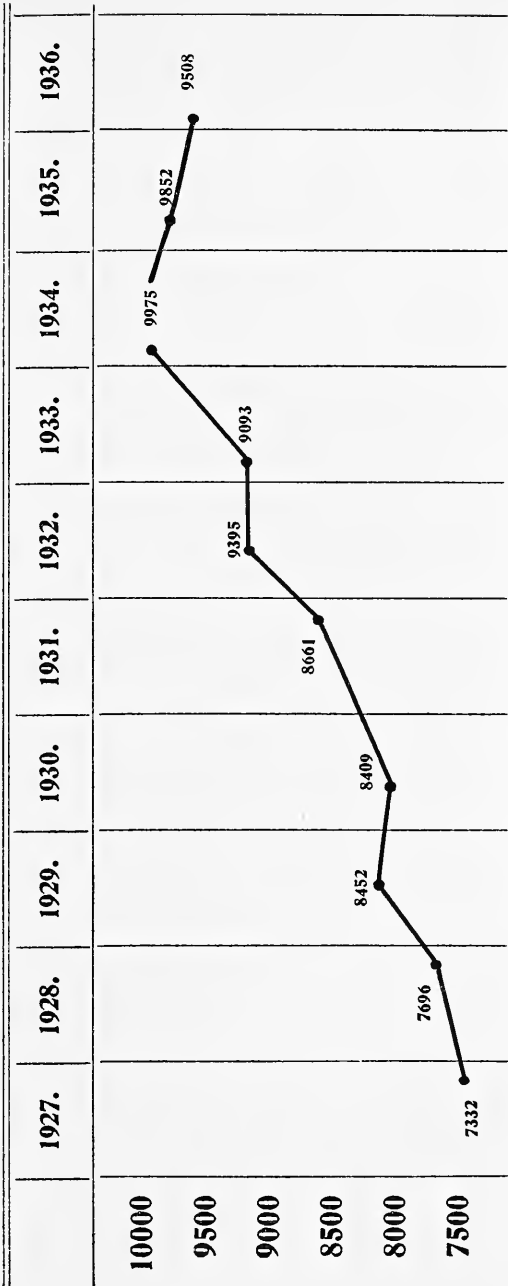
Extent of Fire.

Confined to point of origin	2,994
Confined to buildings	583
Spread to other buildings	60
Total	<u>3,637</u>

CAUSES OF FIRES IN BUILDINGS.

Chimneys, soot burning	426
Defective chimney	43
Sparks from chimney	61
Defectively installed heater	92
Rubbish near heater	67
Hot ashes	86
Fuel oil burners	264
Starting fires, kerosene or gasoline	7
Careless smoking	1,054
Children and matches	255
Other careless use of matches	133
Defective wiring	79
Electric appliances and motors	217
Home dry cleaning	3
Flammable liquids near flame	39
Kerosene lamps, stoves	9
Grease, food on stove	96
Clothes, furniture too near fire	38
Spontaneous ignition	142
Fireworks	49
Thawing water pipes	24
Sparks from machines	19
City gas and appliances	32
Miscellaneous known causes	200
Incendiary or suspicious	64
Unknown	138
	<hr/>
Total	<u>3,637</u>

GRAPHIC CHART OF ALARMS FOR PAST TEN YEARS.



ALARMS, FIRE LOSSES AND INSURANCE.

1936. MONTHS.	ALARMS.			ALARMS RECEIVED FROM.							NO FIRE.					RUBBISH—GRASS.					
	Box.	Telephone.	Other Stills.	Members.	Police.	Watchman.	Outsider.	Automatic.	Unknown.	Total.	False.	Accidental.	Resene.	Needless Bell.	Needless Still.	Automobiles.	RUBBISH—GRASS.				
																	Rubbish, Vacant Lot.	Rubbish near Buildings.	Dump.	Brush or Grass.	Other Outdoor.
January.....	437	301	71	2	10	17	637	18	125	809	126	17	43	25	52	71	24	7	7	29	44
February.....	375	236	78	4	15	15	533	28	94	689	94	31	36	23	48	51	4	6	2	.....	13
March.....	377	208	70	6	7	9	495	20	118	655	118	18	34	19	29	43	13	5	8	73	22
April.....	377	227	79	3	9	12	553	21	85	683	85	20	25	10	39	52	26	13	10	97	31
May.....	473	333	94	12	16	9	726	18	119	900	119	18	38	14	39	76	55	30	23	99	72
June.....	447	263	101	7	5	11	684	14	90	811	90	16	34	14	27	72	46	17	9	94	112
July.....	513	305	118	13	17	8	753	33	112	936	112	29	49	16	30	65	47	22	16	99	135
August.....	338	199	101	3	5	13	537	13	67	638	67	11	44	22	25	78	21	16	6	64	55
September.....	319	158	63	2	5	7	392	30	104	540	104	25	25	15	22	54	16	9	3	7	42
October.....	478	273	96	2	17	5	659	24	140	847	140	21	39	16	37	73	31	19	22	49	87
November.....	624	422	119	3	11	16	963	17	155	1,165	155	15	46	22	53	115	42	19	6	196	91
December.....	474	282	79	1	6	13	642	27	146	835	146	24	38	27	42	97	15	12	4	41	27
Totals.....	5,232	3,207	1,069	58	123	135	7,574	263	1,355	9,508	1,356	245	451	223	443	847	340	175	116	848	731

ALARMS, FIRE LOSSES AND INSURANCE.— Concluded.

1936. 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.....	4	6	293	56	5	159	187	8	.....	\$170,830 74	\$110,216 18	\$10,695,597 00	\$797,511 00
February.....	.....	2	304	67	8	181	189	9	.....	201,612 16	131,037 86	7,774,762 32	706,170 00
March.....	2	3	216	49	3	125	142	1	.....	88,430 42	52,662 23	7,297,515 00	13,847,005 00
April.....	1	9	221	41	3	121	142	2	.....	296,106 26	94,107 27	6,993,919 00	6,288,386 00
May.....	3	10	242	54	8	131	173	.....	.....	97,647 41	37,674 77	3,949,209 00	3,446,827 00
June.....	2	7	215	52	4	125	145	1	.....	82,506 69	22,694 18	3,768,450 00	214,966 00
July.....	4	2	247	55	8	128	179	3	.....	147,951 91	55,520 60	7,790,427 17	1,329,887 98
August.....	3	4	189	29	4	102	119	1	.....	123,451 68	133,322 68	8,470,575 00	2,724,449 00
September.....	1	6	183	27	1	96	115	.....	.....	55,300 56	31,618 47	5,155,798 00	172,670 00
October.....	2	7	258	44	2	138	163	2	1	61,863 75	33,942 49	5,822,090 00	477,196 00	
November.....	.....	13	311	71	10	189	197	5	1	426,709 47	188,094 56	7,097,275 00	1,297,760 00
December.....	1	4	315	38	4	185	164	8	.....	195,196 27	114,459 81	3,144,700 00	3,161,550 00
Totals.....	23	73	2,994	583	60	1,680	1,915	40	2	\$1,947,607 32	\$1,005,351 10	\$77,960,317 49	\$84,464,377 98	

CAUSES OF FIRES AND ALARMS, FROM JANUARY 1, 1936,
TO JANUARY 1, 1937.

Automobile	847	Other careless use of matches	133
Rubbish, vacant lot	340	Defective wiring	79
Rubbish, near building, Dump	175	Electric appliances and motors	217
Brush or grass	116	Home dry cleaning	3
Other outdoor fires	848	Flammable liquids near flame	39
False	731	Kerosene lamps, stoves, Grease, food on stove	9
Accidental	1,356	Clothes, furniture, too near fire	96
Needless bell and still	245	Spontaneous ignition	38
Rescue	666	Fireworks	142
Marine	451	Thawing water pipes	49
Out of city calls	23	Sparks from machines	24
Chimneys, soot burning, Defective chimney	73	Sparks from machines	19
Chimneys, soot burning, Defective chimney	426	City gas and appliances, Miscellaneous known causes	32
Defective chimney	43	Incendiary or suspicious, Unknown	200
Sparks from chimney	61	Total	9,508
Defectively installed heater	92		
Rubbish near heater	67		
Hot ashes	86		
Fuel oil burners	264		
Starting fires, kerosene or gasoline	7		
Careless smoking	1,054		
Children and matches	255		

1936.	FIRES EXTINGUISHED BY.						
	Extinguishers.	Buckets or Cans.	Chemical or Booster.	Hydrant Streams.	Pumper Streams.	Miscellaneous.	Citizens.
January	41	18	146	6	70	46	27
February	41	23	165	6	58	68	18
March	25	28	121	4	43	32	15
April	29	12	134	6	40	30	14
May	35	29	143	3	47	34	13
June	29	21	134	3	42	25	17
July	42	24	141	3	47	33	20
August	22	26	90	5	25	38	16
September	34	17	103	1	19	24	13
October	36	27	141	6	38	39	17
November	45	24	186	10	65	46	16
December	47	33	162	3	40	51	21
Totals	426	282	1,666	56	534	466	207

ALARMS FOR THE PAST TEN YEARS.

YEAR.	Bell.	Still and Automatic.	Totals.
1936.....	5,232	4,276	9,508
1935.....	5,657	4,195	9,852
1934.....	5,952	4,023	9,975
1933.....	5,496	3,597	9,093
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

Each fire is treated as having only one alarm.

FIRES WHERE LOSSES EXCEEDED \$15,000.

DATE.	Location and Owner.	Loss.
1936.		
Jan. 12.....	780 Beacon street, Brighton Realty Company <i>et al.</i>	\$20,811 25
Jan. 30.....	184-190 Hanover street, The Lace Shop <i>et al.</i>	35,381 91
Jan. 31.....	71-79 Kingston street, Allen Stationery Company.....	36,977 30
Jan. 31.....	531 and 533 Washington street, Harvard College <i>et al.</i> ...	15,767 73
Feb. 4.....	109 Spring street, St. Theresa's Hall <i>et al.</i>	19,675 00
Feb. 5.....	463-469 Washington street, Hudson Apparel Company <i>et al.</i>	60,427 04
Feb. 8.....	749-759 Dudley street, Benjamin's Drug Company <i>et al.</i>	17,238 80
Feb. 9.....	669-677 Washington street, Shoe Manufacturers Outfit <i>et al.</i>	31,011 59
Feb. 10.....	196 and 198 State street, C. A. Faulds <i>et al.</i>	15,198 22
Feb. 12.....	364-372 Congress street, Noyes Ellis <i>et al.</i>	16,746 44
March 3.....	11-19 Wormwood street, Proctor-Ellison Company <i>et al.</i>	17,749 43
April 3.....	213 and 215 State street, T. W. Emerson & Co. <i>et al.</i> ...	16,000 23
April 8.....	Lake street, St. John's Seminary.....	234,144 85
April 28.....	Kingston street, Sedlis Manufacturing Company <i>et al.</i> ..	29,437 55
May 9.....	79 North Harvard street, Harvard University Athletic Association.....	15,201 77
June 30.....	28-32 North street, M. Blinder & Co. <i>et al.</i>	21,611 48
July 7.....	27 and 29 Commercial street, A. E. Mills & Son <i>et al.</i> ...	20,704 44
July 27.....	486-498 Albany street, Kimball Realty Company <i>et al.</i> ..	66,554 12
Aug. 10.....	2333-2337 Washington street, Wellworth Market <i>et al.</i> ..	95,713 00
Aug. 14.....	34 and 36 South street, Ackerman & Patterson <i>et al.</i>	33,180 03
Aug. 30.....	8 Winter street, Carpenter Estate <i>et al.</i>	73,707 65
Sept. 26.....	45 West Canton street, Massachusetts Wine and Fruits Corporation <i>et al.</i>	20,891 24
Nov. 17.....	84 and 86 Fulton street, G. Zuffante Company <i>et al.</i>	37,862 54
Nov. 18.....	900 East First street, White Fuel Corporation.....	58,713 40
Nov. 22.....	15-21 Meridian street, A. Caponigro <i>et al.</i>	20,830 05
Nov. 27.....	44 Charles River avenue, Boston Globe Publishing Com- pany <i>et al.</i>	375,893 94
Dec. 8.....	261-287 A street, Boston Plate Glass Company.....	164,594 35
Dec. 18.....	37 and 37½ Revere street, Sarah Rosen <i>et al.</i>	17,705 83
Dec. 22.....	4 and 6 Cooper street, F. Pedonti <i>et al.</i>	21,210 16
Dec. 23.....	17-21 Poplar street, Publix Market, <i>et al.</i>	23,121 57

STATISTICS.

Population, January 1, 1937	817,713
Area, square miles	47.81
Number of brick, etc., buildings	44,293
Number of wooden buildings	93,768
Fires in brick, etc., buildings	2,090
Fires in wooden buildings	1,547
Fires out of city	73
Not in buildings, false and needless	5,798
	9,508

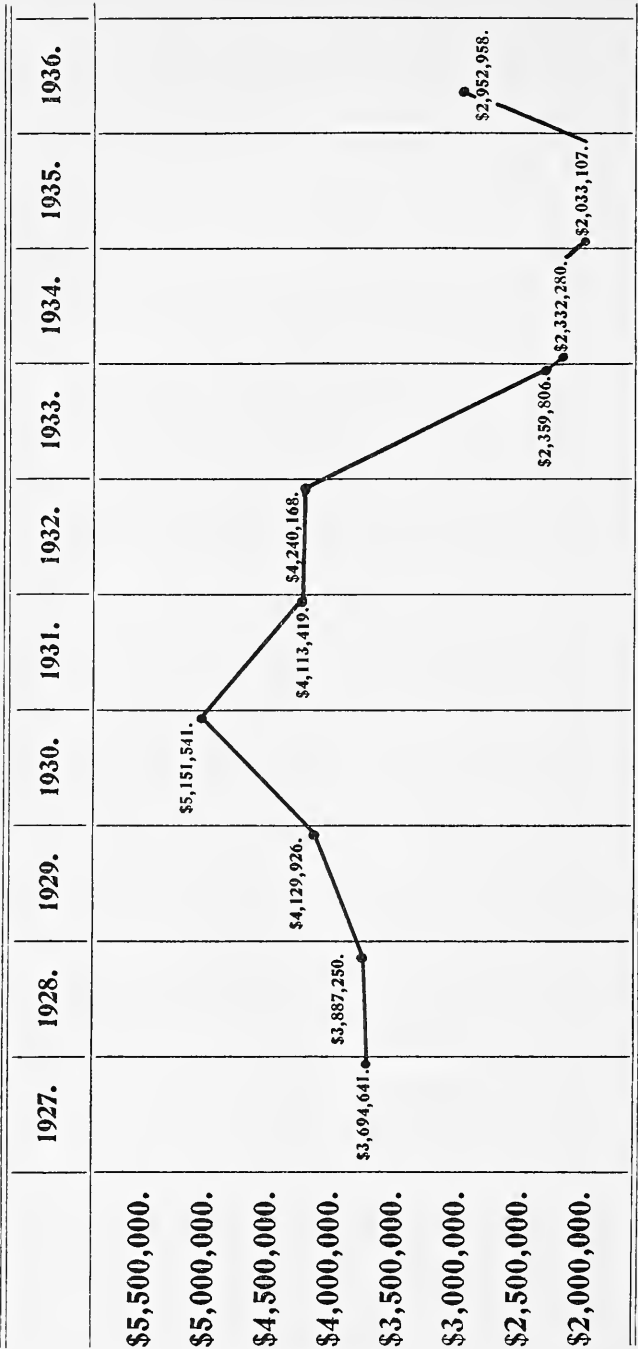
FIRE LOSS FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1936.

Buildings, loss insured	\$1,947,607 32
Contents, loss insured	1,005,351 10
	\$2,952,958 42
Marine loss	\$2,601 50

YEARLY LOSS FOR THE LAST FIFTEEN YEARS.

Year ending January 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	4,113,419 00
" " " 1, 1933	4,240,168 00
" " " 1, 1934	2,359,806 00
" " " 1, 1935	2,332,280 00
" " " 1, 1936	2,033,107 00
" " " 1, 1937	2,952,958 42

GRAPHIC CHART OF FIRE LOSS FOR PAST TEN YEARS.



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.
 Patrick J. Flaherty, for 1934.
 John J. Crehan, for 1936.

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

