

#### CHIEF OFFICERS IN THE NEWS

From Findley Lake comes word that Donald W. Rothenberger has been elected by the Department as Chief Officer for the coming year. Our best wishes go to Chief Rothenberger for a fire safe year and an ever better fire fighting organization.

In Sugar Grove, David Wright has been elected Chief for 1954. Dave has had considerable experience as Assistant Chief, and we expect him to carry on his fine leadership. Sugar Grove has been most generous in cooperating with the County Mutual Aid Plan; an action we all appreciate.

On December 19, Assistant Chief Bernard G. Swanson of the Jamestown Fire Department received a disability retirement after 34 years on the paid force. "Bones", as he was known to fellow firemen, suffered a back injury over a year ago when the Chief's car responding to an alarm of fire became involved in an accident. We sincerely regret that Chief Swanson has to leave the Fire Service. Few firemen can equal his enviable record throughout so many years. Best of luck, Bones!

#### HOW'S THE RADIO NET COMING?

Since installing Sinclairville's radio on Engine 114, Dick Lovejoy has been running around the County making frequency and modulation checks on all mobile units. Dick hopes to finish up these required service calls by the first of the year and get back to installing sets. Next in line for radios are: Ashville Engine 312, Bemus Point M 43, and Brocton Engine 212.

The Dunkirk Fire Department finally received their station license and the call is KED-653. Chief Bannister advises us that six mobile radios have been installed in the City's equipment to date. A very well designed radio room has been built in the Eagle Street Fire Headquarters to accommodate the new base station and radio records.

If any of you should hear the call KED-491, that's the Town of Hamburg's new radio system. Outside of the City of Buffalo, this marks the first radio equipment to be used by Erie County firemen. Plans are formulating to have all Erie County Fire Departments radio equipped, but they will eventually use a different frequency to eliminate all interference with us, yet permit us to talk directly with any of their fire units on 46.22 megacycles.

#### REKINDLES

From time to time we hear about rekindles or fires which break out a second time after apparatus has returned to quarters. Experienced fire fighters know that rekindles are likely after serious "working" fires and accordingly a watch line or detail is usually left on the premises after the apparatus leaves.

A very good practice followed in many Departments is for a fire officer to return to the fire scene after a few hours have elapsed and carefully look over the property. Some advantages of this procedure are; the property owner will be more composed and may give more information as to the origin and circumstances of the fire, the officer will be better able to review the evidences of fire travel, etc., and if any heating or hidden fire is detected, the apparatus may be recalled before serious damage is done.



#### OPINION OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

The subject of fire trucks passing school busses was debated on several occasions last year at County Fire Chief's Association meetings. Since these discussions, the Attorney General of New York State has given an informal opinion in connection with Section 84 of the Vehicle and Traffic Law, which states: "Extreme care is required of an operator of a fire truck in passing a school bus."

In reply to the question, the Attorney General says, "This is in answer to your letter of October 10, in which you ask: 'Is a fire truck enroute to a fire required by law to stop for a stopped school bus loading or discharging children?' I do not believe that this question is one which should be considered with respect to the technicalities of the Vehicle and Traffic Law, but rather one which must and should be determined by the common sense of both the driver of the fire truck and the driver of the school bus, both operators having in mind the safety of children as well as the urgency of the need for a prompt response by a fire truck enroute to a fire.

"I believe that the operator of a school bus, upon the approach of a fire apparatus as evidenced by suitable and continuous warning audible to him (gong, whistle or siren) or by other notice, should immediately draw up the school bus as near as practicable to the right-hand curb or edge of the highway and keep the bus stationary until the apparatus has passed. Of course, he should not open the doors of the bus.

"Without here and now attempting to indicate the precise steps that the operator of a fire truck should take upon approaching a school bus which he has any reason to suppose is stopped or may stop to take on or discharge passengers, I believe that he should at all times exercise extreme care and caution when passing a school bus whether it is or is not at a standstill when he believes it may be carrying children."

#### NIAGARA COUNTY REPORT RECEIVED

Stephen H. Cannaby, Niagara County Fire Coordinator, has issued the following annual report on fire losses in the rural Niagara area: Fire losses totaled \$301,975 in 1953 as compared with \$554,140 in 1952.

Volunteer firemen responded to 255 calls. Buildings which burned included 20 barns and 17 homes, and firemen were called 87 times for grass fires.

More than 1,000 calls were handled through the Fire Radio system at the Control Center. Coordinator Cannaby has recommended to the Board of Supervisors that full-time fire dispatchers be hired to handle the fire calls; a duty now carried out by the Sheriff's staff.

Three Fire Departments constructed new fire stations in 1953, and three new pumpers were purchased in the County.

#### APPARATUS ARRIVES

On December 30, the City of Jamestown placed in service their new 1,000 g.p.m. Howe engine, now stationed at the City Hall headquarters.

The day before Christmas, Lakewood's new Autocar chassis arrived and is now undergoing body construction at the J.N.K. Machine Corp. in Jamestown.



Raymond H. Hughes  
County Coordinator

THE  
B O O S T E R  
LINE

Willis R. Wilson  
Chairman, Advisory Board

Volume 23

Official Publication of the  
Chautauqua County Fire Advisory Board

February 1, 1954

#### PRINTING PROBLEM

THE BOOSTER LINE is faced with a crisis in that Ralph Anderson, who has so generously volunteered his time and use of his mimeograph, is selling his machine. We thank Ralph for the many hours he has given to this little paper which was born a year ago as an experimental enterprise and has since been seen in the finest clubs and offices.

Unless we can find someone who will mimeograph our baby, THE BOOSTER LINE faces extinction. Anyone of our dear readers who may have a mimeograph machine, or know of someone possessing same, with a willingness to print us twice a month, please contact Ray Hughes.

#### BITS OF NEWS

Gerry firemen have purchased a new tractor for Tanker 41. It is a 1949 International unit having a 154 horsepower motor. The 2,000 gal. water carrier should now have plenty of hill climbing ability and an improved road speed.

A 60 watt base station has been acquired by the Lakewood Fire Department to augment the County Fire Service Radio System. It is hoped that the F.C.C. license will be received to put the station in operation by March 1st.

Nearing completion is Ashville's new fire station. Chief Bowen tells us that the apparatus will be moved into the new quarters within a few days.

The Motorola salesman informs us that the selective call system, including the station house receivers, has been shipped from Chicago. It will require a few weeks of testing and survey before Dick Lovejoy can start installing the signal system.

#### INTER-COUNTY RELATIONS COMMITTEE

To promote unity of action and fraternal relations among fire organizations in Southeastern New York State, an Inter-County Relations Committee functions and represents 6 counties, 265 fire departments and approximately 30,000 firemen. Rockland, Orange, Ulster, Sullivan, Dutchess and Putnam counties all have members on the Committee which meets quarterly to investigate, discuss and act upon subjects of interest to the fire organizations.

Such a "Committee" could well serve the needs of Southwestern New York firemen, particularly on problems dealing with inter-county mutual aid and radio communications. Perhaps this seed of a thought will encourage one of our local associations to form some sort of group that would represent Chautauqua, Cattaraugus, Erie, Allegany and possibly other counties. It is worth thinking about at future meetings.

#### COORDINATOR WORRIED?

Your Coordinator is worried because he has not of late received any gripes or complaints from you Fire Chiefs. In fact, not even any new ideas have come forth. This is indeed a serious matter for if Ray doesn't hear something soon he will go on feeling that there is real trouble afoot. A complacent Fire Service just isn't in the books, so send off Chiefs; we need your ideas and will try to help you with your troubles. Certainly you new Fire Chiefs must have some questions; even Chief Dorman of Jamestown wonders why the lights went out.



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County Coordinator

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Willis R. Wilson  
Chairman, Advisory Board

Volume 24

Official Publication of the February 15, 1954  
Chautauqua County Fire Advisory Board

#### ADVISORY BOARD APPOINTED AND ELECTIONS HELD

Chairman Hall R. Clothier, Board of Supervisors, has appointed the following members to serve during this year on the Fire Advisory Board: Supervisor Robert E. Helgren from Jamestown, Supervisor Walter J. Peterson from Gerry, Supervisor Stanley Loomis from North Harmony, Supervisor Emmett Eckman from Busti, Supervisor Richard Evans from Ellery, Willis R. Wilson of Westfield, Jack Washington of Cassadaga, Chief Clarence Scudder of Falconer, John Sommers of Mayville, Rolland A. Taft of Kiantone, Ivan I. Velzy of Silver Creek, Chief John F. Martyn of Jamestown, Sheriff Charles C. McCloskey, Jr., Col. Chris MacDonald of Silver Creek, Thomas Bretz of Ripley, Donald Curtis of Cherry Creek, Edward Bulman of Celoron, Chief Arthur Howles of Clymer, Chief Samuel Lord of Fluvanna, Chief Lloyd Johnson of Frewsburg, Chief Irvin B. Bowen of Ashville, Chief Vernon Crandall of Kennedy and Walter Gloor of Fredonia.

At the January meeting of the Advisory Board the following were elected to office: Willis R. Wilson, Chairman for the fourth consecutive year; Jack Washington, First Vice Chairman; Chief Scudder, Second Vice Chairman; John Sommers, Recording Secretary; and Rolland A. Taft Corresponding Secretary.

Coordinator Hughes also announced the appointment of Chief Howard K. Samuelson of Gerry as Fourth Battalion Deputy Coordinator.

#### REVISED CHIEF OFFICERS LIST

Enclosed with this issue of THE BOOSTER LINE is a revised list of Chief Officers. The list may already not be accurate due to recent Department elections, and we ask you to please notify your Battalion Coordinator if there are any errors. Keeping up with Fire Chiefs is a tough job this time of year.

MAPLE SPRINGS - Firemen of this Lakeside community have placed in service a 1951 model Chevrolet Sedan-Delivery emergency truck. The unit is equipped with an Inhalator and other life rescue apparatus. Chief Hawley please note that the new truck has been assigned M-26 as its County number.

#### RADIO PROCEDURE MANUAL PREPARED

John Gollnitz has prepared an excellent radio procedure manual for use by all members of the County Fire Service. The manual, in preparation for several months, is the first of its kind to be written in New York State. Our most sincere congratulations, John, for a big job well done. Distribution of the manuals will take place as rapidly as possible during the next few weeks.

As John points out, enunciating clearly and talking slowly are perhaps the most important rules for good radio transmission. It is natural for one to shout above the noise of a pumper in operation and to talk rapidly when time seems to be of the essence. Both practices result in garbled messages with a much greater time loss than if normal voice level is used together with deliberate pronunciation of each word.

MOBILE RADIOS - Installations have been completed in Ashville Engine 312, Fredonia Engine 10 and Panama Engine 35. Bemus Point is next.



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County Coordinator

THE  
B O O S T E R  
L I N E

Willis R. Wilson  
Chairman, Advisory Board

Volume 25

Official Publication of the  
Chautauqua County Fire Advisory Board

March 1, 1954

#### COUNTY CHIEFS GET RESERVE PUMPER

Long aware of the need for a reserve pumper which would be available upon request to any Department, the Lakewood Fire Department last week donated their 1927 model Engine to the County Fire Chiefs Association. The Association has agreed to underwrite the maintenance and insurance costs, and tentative arrangements have been made to house the reserve rig at the Mayville Fire Headquarters.

The reserve pumper is equipped with a 500 g. p. m. rotary-gear pump, a 150 gallon booster tank, a hose body for 1,000 feet of 2½ inch hose and other appliances common on triple combination units. Lakewood has replaced this apparatus with a new 750 g. p. m. Engine.

Any Department in the County whose regular apparatus is involved in a major accident or is required to be out of service for repairs of a serious nature may borrow the reserve pumper free of charge for as long as is necessary to get their own regular rig back in service. All that the Department borrowing the pumper needs to do is load their own hose and nozzles aboard and a complete fire fighting unit is ready for action.

We highly commend the Chiefs Association for undertaking this most worthy project and compliment the Lakewood Department for their generosity and thinking in terms of all of us.

#### RATING ORGANIZATION REQUIRES TRAINING PROGRAMS

Mr. Robert D. Kelly of the New York Fire Insurance Rating Organization recently emphasized that the quality and scope of training directly controlled insurance rates in a community.

Says Mr. Kelly, "The items of fire department personnel, discipline and training are very important. It is reasonable to expect that records will be found which, in the case of volunteer departments, will show the actual manpower response to day and to night alarms; of attendance at drill and training schools; and at regular meetings. If such records are not kept, it is very difficult to grade a community properly. Unless there is sufficient manpower responding to all alarms for all pieces of apparatus, there is liable to be a penalty incurred in the grading for such deficient response."

"Regardless of whether a fire department is volunteer, full paid or part paid, complete and modern training methods are desirable and supervision should be in the hands of competent chief officers or officers who are schooled in modern methods of fire fighting, and are able to direct their subordinates in an efficient manner meriting the respect and consideration of the department."

With these thoughts in mind, we urge each Chief Officer to review the training situation in his Department and encourage his men to participate in the Fire Training Program which will begin the first week of April. The training school schedule is enclosed with this issue of THE BOOSTER LINE.

OFFER RECEIVED - Bill Eifler, Jamestown's Director of Civil Defense has offered to mimeograph THE BOOSTER LINE. Thanks, Bill, for the offer and for saving our life. We hope all our readers enjoy this paper for a change; we know that Chief Tony Domst likes variety!



Raymond H. Hughes  
County Coordinator

THE  
B O O S T E R  
LINE

Willis R. Wilson  
Chairman, Advisory Board

Volume 26

Official Publication of the  
Chautauqua County Fire Advisory Board

March 15, 1954

#### COORDINATOR TO ATTEND CONFERENCE

The second annual County Fire Coordinator's Conference sponsored by the State Bureau of Fire will be held on March 15, 16 and 17 in the City of Elmira. Your Coordinator plans to leave Sunday the 14th for preliminary registration at the Mark Twain Hotel, headquarters of the Conference.

Keynote of the Conference program will be centered around the discussion of practical matters in operating County Mutual Aid Plans, with actual training in the use of radio communications as a Control Center function. From experience last year we know that Ray won't have much time to enjoy the beauty of the Chemung Valley as the Conference hours run from early morning until late at night.

#### JANUARY ALARMS AVERAGE

The Control Center report for January shows that 40 fire calls were recorded, 14 of which involved Mutual Aid. These figures do not include alarms in the cities of Dunkirk or Jamestown where radio communications are handled locally. January emergencies were somewhat less in number over the previous month when 55 alarms were recorded.

During 1953 October proved to be the busiest month with 76 fire alarms recorded, 28 of which involved Mutual Aid.

#### AN EXPRESSION OF THANKS

Following the Powers Hotel fire at Silver Creek, the LAKE SHORE NEWS published a front page article written by Fire Commissioner Velzy as follows:

"On behalf of the Officers and Members of the Silver Creek Fire Dept. thanks for the assistance and thoughtfulness Monday a.m. during the Hotel Powers fire to, Chief Domst and Firemen of Dunkirk, Chief Guest and Firemen of Fredonia and Chief Wollaman and Firemen of Sheridan; Radio staffs of stations KEB 909, Mayville; KEC 505, Fredonia; KED 653, Dunkirk for constant cooperation....."

#### FIRE TRAINING IN NEW YORK STATE

Dr. Leonard C. Silvern, Training Coordinator of the State Bureau of Fire, reports that during 1952-53 a total of 10,818 fire fighters received training. Included in this total were 4,543 trainees who used basic instruction; 3,541 who received intermediate instruction and 2,734 who received advanced fire fighting instruction. In the year ending June 30, 1953, 2,329 State Fire Training Certificates were awarded to firemen who completed all three courses.

The Bureau of Fire prepared and developed intermediate and advanced workbooks and completely revised the Basic Lesson Plans which had been under field test for two years. In addition, several new films have been added to the training aids library.

Several city fire departments having paid personnel participated in the training program including Binghamton, Utica, Ogdensburg, Newburg, Poughkeepsie, Jamestown and others.

DON'T FORGET CHIEFS! - Fire Schools are scheduled to begin at:-  
West Dunkirk on April 2nd (Friday)  
Lakewood on April 4th (Sunday)  
Bemus Point on April 5th (Monday)  
Kennedy on April 6th (Tuesday)



#### SPRING CLEAN-UP TIME

Very soon many Fire Departments will be launching their Spring Clean-Up Campaigns. These yearly drives will be made most effective through inspection of mercantile establishments and other occupancies.

The National Fire Protection Association again this year has prepared some attractive posters and stickers to emphasize these Clean-Up activities. There is also a "Fire Chief's Packet" of newspaper and radio releases available.

Further information and printed materials may be obtained by writing to the N. F. P. A. Publications Department, 60 Batterymarch St., Boston, 10, Massachusetts.

#### RADIO CONTROL AT LARGE FIRES

A procedure which has been tried and proven is the use of one radio equipped apparatus for a field control center at large fires. The officer in command of a fire will find that considerable time can be saved and much greater coordination achieved if he establishes a sort of "headquarters" at the scene.

Incoming fire companies can be directed more efficiently and, if the fire involves a large area, the chief officer can receive reports from his junior officers or from apparatus out of immediate sight with the result that overall command decisions are more readily formulated and disseminated.

#### NEWS AND VIEWS

Westfield firemen recently nominated for Village Board appointment Charles Gollnitz as Chief, John Gollnitz as Assistant Chief and Robert Gollnitz as Department Secretary. Nothing like having a closed corporation. Congratulations Charley, we hope you will let us vote our proxies.

The Control Center report for February shows that 60 emergency calls were handled, 11 of which involved the use of Mutual Aid. This increase in fires and public emergencies we don't like and hope that you Chiefs will preach more fire prevention during the coming months--. Largest fire during the report period was the Hotel Powers in Silver Creek with a close second at the Benson Furniture Plant at Kiantone.

Governor Dewey on March 16th signed into law an amendment to the Compensation Law which increases from \$22. to \$36. a week for volunteer firemen injured while on duty. Other benefits were also included in the bill. Firemen's legislation approvals appear to be quite favorable this year, and we are currently interested in amendments to the Vehicle & Traffic Laws relative to the use of red and blue lights; a program that was defeated last year.

We are pleased to learn that both the Lander and Bear Lake Fire Departments (Pennsylvania) which were recently organized are sending men to the County Fire Schools at Lakewood, Sherman and possibly Kennedy. It looks as if the Lakewood school is going to hit an all time high in attendance, and Walt Burr may have his hands full.

Honorable mention goes to the Sinclairville and Cassadaga Fire Departments for the splendid job they did last month in saving a farm home from destruction in the face of tremendous odds; a very strong wind and limited water supplies.



**COLLISION INSURANCE STUDIED**

At the request of several Fire Officers, the Advisory Board has appointed a committee headed by Donald Curtis of Cherry Creek to study rate schedules for fire apparatus collision insurance. As soon as the committee renders their report, we will publish portions of the information gathered. The Advisory Board strongly advocates that all Fire Departments carry collision as well as liability insurance on first line apparatus.

In the meantime, having received a letter from Chief Dorman of Jamestown which lists collision rates for the City, we quote below a few of the facts to indicate the apparent low cost of collision protection. We are not sure if these rates would apply to other Departments, particularly in the rural areas.

<u>APPARATUS COVERED</u>	<u>VALUATION</u>	<u>\$ 250.00 DEDUCTIBLE</u>	<u>\$ 500.00 DEDUCTIBLE</u>
1953 Howe	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 55.00	\$ 29.00
1952 Oren	15,000.00	44.00	23.00
1949 Pirsch	15,000.00	44.00	23.00
1941 LaFrance	10,000.00	42.00	22.00
1937 Stewart	4,200.00	34.00	18.00
1928 Ahrens-Fox	11,000.00	42.00	22.00

**SILVER CREEK** - Col. Chris MacDonald has resigned as County Director of Civil Defense, and Hall R. Clothier, Chairman of the Board of Supervisors, has assumed all defense duties. A preliminary meeting was held at Gowanda on March 24 to discuss different phases of the Buffalo C.D. test to be run in July; representing Chautauqua County were Chief Domst of Dunkirk, Chief Dorman of Jamestown, Chairman Clothier, William A. Eifler and Raymond Hughes.

**PORTLAND** - Firemen of this northern Chautauqua County community are busy rebuilding a 1948 model General Motors truck into an emergency vehicle. This new acquisition will carry County No. M-27 when placed in service next month, and will be the 116th piece of motorized apparatus operated by the County Fire Service.

**STATION HOUSE RECEIVERS RETURNED**

The selective calling receivers which will provide radio control of fire alarms from the Control Center at Mayville have been returned to Motorola, Inc. for some changes. While bench testing the units, Dick Lovejoy, our technician, discovered that the receivers did not meet the specifications which were bid upon; both Federal and County requirements were not incorporated as required.

According to Motorola, the receivers will be reshipped to the County, a few at a time, beginning next week, and Dick hopes to start installations by May 1st.

**LAKEWOOD** - George V. Blackstone, who for six years has been the Field Representative of the New York State Bureau of Fire for this area, has resigned his position and will be employed at the First National Bank in Jamestown. George says he will continue to remain active in local fire circles.



Raymond H. Hughes  
County Coordinator

THE  
B O O S T E R  
LINE

Willis R. Wilson  
Chairman, Advisory Board

Volume 29

Official Publication of the  
Chautauqua County Fire Advisory Board

May 1, 1954

#### TRAINING SCHOOLS WELL ATTENDED

The Fire Training Program which is sponsored by the Advisory Board has attracted a large attendance, and according to a report from Donald A. Sales, County Training Coordinator, two hundred and two firemen are enrolled. Thirty two County Departments and three Pennsylvania units are represented at the schools.

Total firemen attending at the various schools are as follows: West Dunkirk 29, Lakewood 39, Bemus Point 31, Kennedy 49, Sherman 31, and Forestville 23.

#### NEW LAW ON YIELDING PHONE

On April 9 Governor Dewey signed into law an act which takes effect October 1, 1954 and makes it a criminal offense in New York State to fail to yield a telephone party line for an emergency call.

The new bill makes the offense a misdemeanor, and the legislation defines an emergency as "any situation in which property or human life are in jeopardy and the prompt summoning of help is essential." The bill also makes it a misdemeanor for any person to say he needs a line for an emergency when none exists.

Dewey, in signing the bill, said the measure "may pose some enforcement problems." But, he added, "if it should save the life of one sick person or prevent a home from being burned to the ground, its enactment will be justified." We can thank the Gerry Town Board for initiating action on this important matter.

OSHKOSH, Neb. - That crowd that always follows a fire truck got a big surprise when firemen set fire to a pool of oil on a dead end street and sounded the alarm. When the usual crowd followed the apparatus, the firemen blocked off the open end of the street. They then warned people in cars that the next time they followed the trucks, they would get traffic tickets. The results were amazing, and we suggest that you Chiefs consider this action if you have a similiar problem.

#### TEST OVER STATE LINES

From F. B. Shaw, Auxiliary Fireman in Bradford, Pa., we learn that New York and Pennsylvania fire companies held a joint test recently at Eldred, Pa. Mr. Shaw says, "This town is within operating distance of Bradford, which is in the heart of the oil fields, and Olean, a manufacturing center. Several companies from various towns on both sides of the border took part in the exercise which was under the command of Chief Slavin of the Eldred Department.

"Two tests were run; one a speed test and the other an effort to pick up and hold water from a 70 foot lift with the aid of a 'hi-lift' suction arrangement. The former test consisted of starting on signal, laying 2,000 ft. of hose through a relay and delivering the proper quantity and pressure of water at the nozzle; a job done in 7 minutes."

Perhaps this Summer Chautauqua and Warren counties can work out a similiar drill which would be of benefit to the firemen of both States and of value and interest to Civil Defense officials in their planning.

The apple of the average man's eye is usually the little peach with the prettiest pair. (from Wilson's vineyard)



#### FIRE POLICE ORGANIZE

Over 200 volunteer firemen, serving their home communities as Fire Police, met in Suffern, N. Y. on February 27 to form the Volunteer Fire Police Association of the State of New York. Since the initial meeting paid-up membership has increased to 600.

It is the plan of the Association to divide the State into nine districts with a director elected or appointed for each district. At the present time, Chief Charles H. Draudt of Valley Cottage is serving as President of the organization, and local Fire Police groups interested in joining or wishing more information are urged to write to the President or Secretary Ted Feldberg of Monticello, N. Y.

#### FIRE DRILL IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

Recent public school tragedies prompted the Advisory Board to review the State Education Law at the last meeting in Silver Creek. To outline the important parts of the Law, Commissioner Ivan Velzy has submitted to us the following excerpts:

"Twelve fire drills shall be held in each school year; eight of which must be held between September 1 and December 1 of the same year. One-third of such drills shall make use of fire escapes if installed on the school building."

"The Chief of the Fire Department of the municipality or fire district in which the school is located shall have the right at any and all times to make inspections in every public or private school or educational institution within his district, and it shall be his duty to report his recommendations in reference to fire hazards and fire drills to the Board of Education or other authority in charge of such school or institution."

For further details, please refer to Section 807 of the Education Law as amended in 1953, a copy of which may be obtained from your own city, town or village clerk.

#### NATIONAL TRAINING EXERCISE

General Huebner, Director of Civil Defense for the State of New York, has announced that everyone in our State will be expected to seek shelter when the sirens sound on June 14 for a test alert. The General did not disclose the exact time of the alert, but said that it will be "in mid-morning and outside the normal business rush and heavy traffic periods". The State of Pennsylvania will participate in a like manner.

#### NEWS AND VIEWS

The Falconer Fire Department has completed negotiations with the City of Jamestown to purchase the latter's old radio base station. We understand that the station will be erected in the Community Building and will be "on the air" as soon as Chief Scudder can get the F. C. C. license. Operation will be on 46.10 megacycles.

Lakewood finally received their license from the F. C. C. for their base station and the call is KED-818.

You may have noticed that the Coordinator's first name has been changed at the top of this page to conform with ~~in~~ a recent legal action ~~involving~~ involving a transaction which in broad daylight is baby blue but after dark appears to be a bit unusual. In other words, Ray has purchased a Cadillac; not unusual for persons holding high offices in the Fire game.



### COLLISION INSURANCE

The Advisory Board committee in their study of fire apparatus collision insurance advises that a waiver should be included with the policy to read as follows: 'In the event of loss under the "Collision or Upset" portion of this policy, the Blank Insurance Company agrees to waive any right of recovery it may have against any County, Town, Village, City, Fire District or other political sub-division of the state.'

Without the above waiver, a collision policy would fail to accomplish the objective of protecting all parties concerned, and the committee points out that on Mutual Aid calls the waiver protects the sub-division requesting aid as well as the home community.

The committee also finds that the cost of collision protection as quoted in the April 15 issue of THE BOOSTER LINE is accurate for rural as well as the City Departments. Regardless of the size of the community, whether paid or volunteer department, rates are similar.

PREWSBURG - Chief Lloyd Johnson has been appointed by the Advisory Board to organize and promote year around Fire Prevention activities throughout the County. "Stub" Johnson is certainly well qualified for this new job having displayed a wealth of experience, initiative and fine leadership in his own Town. Already the Chief has prepared packets of Fire Prevention materials for use by the Fire Service.

### ARE YOU TAGGED?

Dick Lovejoy, our radio technician, requests that all Chief Officers inspect their mobile radios to make sure that a license tag (F.C.C. Form 452-C Revised) is attached to some part of each mobile unit. Officers not able to locate the Transmitter Identification Card are asked to call the Control Center or notify Dick as soon as possible because Federal law requires that identification tags be attached before the radio may be operated.

### NEW RESIDENCE QUALIFICATIONS

Chapter 699 of the Laws of 1954 has been signed by the Governor to clarify the statutory provisions relating to the residence qualifications of volunteer firemen.

The new law continues the requirement that a volunteer fireman be a resident of the "home" area of a fire company or of a "contract" area, yet permits a member to change his residence from either of such areas to the other without losing his membership. It permits a fire company to continue the membership of a volunteer who moves outside the "home" area or a "contract" area but is available to render service with his company. It authorizes fire companies to admit persons to membership if they were once volunteer firemen, live in the vicinity and are able to render service with the fire company.

The law contains appropriate "savings" clauses so that the status of volunteer firemen legally elected to membership prior to July 1, 1954, will not be affected. The new law becomes effective generally July 1, 1954, but can be made applicable in any municipality, fire district or fire corporation before then.



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B O O S T E R  
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Volume 32

Official Publication of the  
Chautauque County Fire Advisory Board

#### HUGHES APPOINTED TO STATE COMMITTEE

County Fire Coordinator Raymond H. Hughes has been appointed to a five member committee established by the State Division of Safety, Bureau of Fire, to coordinate all Fire Radio networks operating in the fifty-seven counties of our State.

Other members of the committee are; Coordinator Otto Friske of Dutchess County, Coordinator Levi L. Todriff of Clinton County, Coordinator Ward Bohner of Oneida County and Coordinator John Stephens of Wayne County. The group held their first meeting in Albany early last month.

This appointment is the second honor received by Ray in recent months, as he was named Regional Fire Administrator for Chautauque County by State Officials in April. The position of Fire Administrator carries full authorities under the provisions of the Fire Mobilization and Mutual Aid Plan of the State of New York.

#### AROUND THE COUNTY

The Lake City Hose Co. No. 3 of Dunkirk held open house at their new fire headquarters on May 30. This occasion marked the completion of one of the most modern and finest fire stations in the State which is reported to have cost about \$100,000.00. Dunkirk Engine 123 will be housed in the spacious new quarters adjacent to Route 5.

Kennedy firemen are hard at work these days on their new fire station necessitated by the acquisition of a third Engine last year. The building will be located upon the same site as the original station and will have two large doors with adequate floor space for the three rigs.

Chief Charles E. Dorman of Jamestown and George V. Blackstone of Lakewood have been appointed members of the Advisory Board by the County Board of Supervisors. Chief Dorman recently paid tribute to the volunteer firemen of the County in a speech before the Jamestown Optimist Club, and we thank Charley for his fine words.

The Busti Fire Department has purchased a four wheel drive Jeep to be equipped for grass and brush fires or for fires normally inaccessible to heavier apparatus due to terrain or heavy snow conditions. County Number M 31 has been assigned to the Jeep apparatus.

An inventory of mobile radios in the County shows that there are eighty-eight units in operation by the Fire Service. Thus we have the second largest radio network in the State of New York.

Frewsburg has received delivery of their new Howe Engine. A few of the features of this 750 g. p. m. pumper are; two 1½ inch hose compartments across the body between the booster reels and the main hose body, a three man enclosed cab, 500 gallon booster tank and a 35 foot aluminum extension ladder. Frewsburg's is the last of the eight Engines to be delivered in the County which were partly financed by Federal Civil Defense funds. The eight pieces of equipment represent a Federal expenditure of \$52,000.00 and a local expenditure of over \$108,000.00.

Over the Memorial Day weekend, Lakewood firemen launched their Rescue Boat for the season. The boat's motor was replaced this Spring with a special marine converted Lincoln V-8 which develops 210 horse-power; an increase of 60 horses over the old Chrysler power plant.



SOME OPINIONS OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

The General Counsel of the State Civil Defense Commission, Hon. Sidney M. Goetz, recently received from Attorney General Goldstein the following answers to the questions stated:

"Are fire departments and fire companies obliged to respond to a call or order from the local civil defense director through his deputy director of fire for the dispatch of fire apparatus and fire personnel for the purpose of participating in an official civil defense test, drill or practice exercise?" ANSWER: Yes.

"Does the same rule apply both to municipal fire departments, and to volunteer fire companies that operate under the jurisdiction of a Board of Fire Commissioners?" ANSWER: Yes.

"Does the same rule apply where, by the nature of the civil defense test, fire apparatus and personnel are obliged to travel beyond their own or adjoining fire districts in order to participate in a multiple company practice exercise in a distant part of the county?" ANSWER: Yes.

"Does the same rule apply where, in a state-directed civil defense test, fire apparatus and personnel are ordered by the State Civil Defense Director or his duly authorized deputy, to participate in practice exercises outside of their local community, or in an adjoining county, or in a target area designated by the state director where such target area is beyond the limits of the adjoining county?" ANSWER: Yes.

"In any such test, drill or practice exercise, wherein damage is sustained by the fire apparatus responding thereto and such damage is not attributable to the fault of any third person, corporation or municipal agency, are the state or local civil defense authorities who issued the call responsible for such damage?" ANSWER: No.

"In any such test, drill or practice exercise, wherein injuries are sustained by the fire personnel responding thereto, are such injuries covered by the workman's compensation benefits ordinarily applicable to fire personnel under the provisions of Section 205 of the General Municipal Law?" ANSWER: Yes.

While on the subject of civil defense, we wish to thank all Fire Departments for your splendid cooperation during the recent Nationwide C.D. test alert.

STANDARD FOR PORTABLE PUMPS

The National Fire Protection Association Standard No. 191, "Portable Pumping Units for Fire Department Service" has been adopted and is now ready for distribution.

It recommends standard features of portable pumps such as pumping capacity, weight, size, etc. which are minimum requirements for satisfactory Fire Service operation.

Copies of this Standard may be obtained for 25 cents each from the NFPA Publications Department, 60 Batterymarch St., Boston 10, Mass.

Safety of Home and Family  
Depends on a Good Fire Department



Raymond H. Hughes  
County Coordinator

THE  
B O O S T E R  
LINE

Willis R. Wilson  
Chairman, Advisory Board

Volume 34

Official Publication of the  
Chautauqua County Fire Advisory Board

July 15, 1954

DIRECTORY OF FIRE PERSONNEL

Several of our readers have requested that we publish a directory of County Fire Personnel listing their telephone numbers. Thus the following directory is offered for your information and use:

<u>TITLE and NAME</u>	<u>BUSINESS</u>	<u>RESIDENCE</u>
FIRE COORDINATOR Raymond H. Hughes	Jamestown 4-939	Jamestown 66-121
SECURITY COORDINATOR G. Chester Wilbur	Jamestown 84-857	Jamestown 84-857
TRAINING COORDINATOR Donald A. Sales	Lakewood 7-473	Lakewood 6-931
COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR John Gollnitz, Jr.	Westfield 123	Westfield 394A
EQUIPMENT COORDINATOR Frank Lamphear	Bemus Point 3-415	Bemus Point 3-415
FIRST BATTALION COORDINATOR Clarence Penharlow	Fredonia 27-506	Fredonia 27-506
SECOND BATTALION COORDINATOR Raymond Harmon	Westfield 3	Westfield 612
THIRD BATTALION COORDINATOR Charles D. Pryde	Jamestown 7-964	Lakewood 7-222
FOURTH BATTALION COORDINATOR Howard K. Samuelson	Jamestown 4-882	Jamestown 62-552
RADIO TECHNICIAN Richard A. Lovejoy	Jamestown 6-008	Jamestown 90-366
CHAIRMAN, ADVISORY BOARD Willis R. Wilson	Westfield 14	Westfield 616W

A FEW ITEMS OF INTEREST

Jamestown's master mechanic, Bill Carlson, and his colleagues are building a 500 g.p.m. pumper on a G.M.C. chassis. This new rig will be housed at the Newland Ave. station as Engine 3.

Dewittville firemen have nearly completed work on their new pumper which is mounted on a Chevrolet chassis. Engine 24 is also a 500 g.p.m. unit and will replace a seventeen year old pumper.

Most of the selective-call station house receivers have been returned to the County by Motorola, and Dick Lovejoy is in the process of installing the tone transmitting equipment at the Control Center. Dick plans to bench test each receiver before it is installed in a fire station to insure reliable operation. Initial connection to fire sirens in the various communities should get underway this month.



#### UNDERWATER RESCUE OPERATIONS

How firemen can double in brass by becoming divers in underwater rescue operations was demonstrated recently at the Bayonne Naval Supply Depot, N.J. Lt. James K. Martins put on a standard fireman's air pack unit and dove off a pier to the bottom of New York harbor.

As members of the New Jersey State Fire Chief's Association stood by, Lt. Martins stood on his head, rolled over and performed other maneuvers under 25 feet of water to show that the mask would not leak.

According to Martins, "Almost any fireman can use equipment which is standard on most fire trucks to make emergency underwater rescue of persons in vehicles which have run into a river or lake."

For the past fourteen months experiments have been conducted at the Naval Depot with various types of self-contained masks, and results indicate that the compressed air variety is the best for underwater work. Lt. Martins suggests that diver teams be organized in Fire Departments, but he cautions that when underwater the mask's air capacity is greatly reduced due to increased drain by the wearer and normal use time may be reduced to about five minutes.

#### REVISED RADIO CALL CARDS

Now being distributed throughout the County are new radio call cards which have been revised to date. A feature of the new cards is the printing on both sides; the First and Second Battalions appear on one side while the Third and Fourth battalions are listed on the opposite side.

Battalion Coordinators using mobile radios while on duty will be designated by their respective codes as indicated on the call cards. This procedure should limit the possibility of confusion at fires and generally assist Chief Officers when radio traffic is unusually heavy.

#### FIRE COMPANIES CONVERGE ON CARTHAGE, N.Y.

A make-believe fire started by "enemy" attack brought 58 fire companies from eight counties into this northern New York village on Friday night, June 11th.

The exercise, staged by Civil Defense units, climaxed the second day of the three-day convention of the Northern New York Firemen's Association. Fire trucks manned by an estimated 500 men came from communities in Oneida, Onondaga, Oswego, Lewis, St. Lawrence, Franklin, Essex and Jefferson counties.

#### GUIDE PREPARED BY STATE

The Guide to the State Fire Mobilization and Mutual Aid Plan has been prepared by the Bureau of Fire and establishes principles of mutual aid for the State of New York.

In Chapter One, mutual aid is defined as: "Organized, supervised, coordinated, cooperative, reciprocal assistance in which personnel, equipment and physical facilities of fire departments, regardless of type or size, are utilized for fire or other public emergency in which the services of firemen would be used throughout the State of New York and contiguous areas."

The Guide then goes on to outline the need for organized plans and establishes the kinds of planning which are required for good mutual aid. Fundamental policies are also outlined.



Raymond H. Hughes  
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Volume 36

Official Publication of the August 15, 1954  
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#### PROPER STORAGE OF HAY

For years, spontaneous ignition has been the hazard of storing hay. Many a serious fire has been started, and several barns have burned to the ground because some farmer did not know, or did not follow, the rules for preventing spontaneous ignition in his hay mow.

The first rule, of course, is to be sure that hay is thoroughly dry before moving it into the barn. By "dry" we mean both "dry" in the sense that it is no longer green and "dry" meaning free from moisture. When the hay is in the barn it should be spread evenly to avoid large masses which are closely packed.

The hay mow should be examined frequently, and if there is the slightest indication that the mow is heating, temperature readings must be taken frequently. If testing pipes are not available, plug the end of a regular iron pipe and drill several holes near the plugged end. Stand the pipe in the hay, with the plugged end down. Now lower a thermometer on a string in the pipe to determine the critical area. If the readings reach 170 degrees Fahrenheit, stand by for danger. Once the temperature reaches 170 degrees, it can go up to the ignition point in a matter of minutes.

When this danger temperature is reached, get the hay out of the barn as fast as you can, removing that part in which the hottest temperatures have been found.

A word of caution - DON'T drench the hay with water. Water caused the trouble in the first place. When the hay is being removed from the barn, have a crew standing by with a charged hose line in the event spontaneous ignition occurs before all of the hay is removed. Let's help reduce farm fire losses in Chautauqua County.

#### SAFETY ON THE HIGHWAY

At the onset of Mutual Aid planning in our County, the Chief Officers were unanimous in the opinion that fire apparatus should not exceed the speed of 40 m.p.h. when responding to Mutual Aid emergencies. This safety factor was and is deemed necessary to protect human lives and insure that the apparatus reached its destination without mishap.

A few recent Mutual Aid calls have caused us some concern for we seem to have forgotten about the 40 m.p.h. limit. If the three horse hitch persists in galloping down the main drag, then feed 'em less oats and a little more common sense.

#### FROM THE NEWS-SENTINEL, FORT WAYNE, INDIANA

July 21 - "One man was killed when a barn collapsed during the fierce storm that struck Fort Wayne and vicinity Tuesday night. Carter Bowser, 57, a former Fort Wayne fire chief and Indiana state fire marshall, was killed in the storm when he was trapped and crushed to death in a barn blown down at his home on the Cook Road.

Bowser apparently was trapped in the building when the storm started and was unable to leave it because of the storm's suddenness, according to Indiana State Police. His body was found beneath rubble under the fallen building and was removed by State Police, who were assisted by members of the Allen County Sheriff's Department and the Hometown Volunteer Fire Department."

Coincidence!, but our firemen were more fortunate on Sprague Hill.



#### STAND OFF AND TAKE A LOOK

Confusion of the battle is one of the enemies of Chiefs commanding on the fire ground. This is especially true in fire fighting because almost all Chiefs retain intense pride in their "smoke-eating" ability and press into the thick of the fray like warrior kings of the middle ages. The costly experience of the battlefield has finally taught the military that the front line turmoil is not a practical command post for generals heaving responsibilities.

Just so, a smoky basement is not the best command post location for a Chief Fire Officer who wishes to deploy his forces properly and make clear-headed intelligent decisions. He may have a sense of physically participating in a fight and of proving to himself and his subordinates "that the old man can take it" but the surrounding streets may be filled with costly apparatus and equipment that is not being properly used because the commanding officer has merely the view of a punch-drunk fighter rather than a fight manager.

Chief Lloyd Layman in his book "Fire Fighting Tactics" says; "when directing major operations, a commanding officer should establish a command post at an advantageous location and supervise operations through staff officers and aides who are trained and qualified to perform such duties."

Stand off and take a look at the overall operation; you will get more done and efficiency will replace confusion on the fire ground.

#### THE NEWS IS BRIEF

Everyone seems to have enjoyed the August Chief's Association meeting in Ovestown. Charley is a grand host and the crew of Co. 2 have obviously had considerable culinary experience!

Dick Lovejoy has finished rewiring the base station at Mayville to accommodate the selective call system. Station receivers are now being installed, and Chief Officers are asked to arrange for an electrician to be present when Dick installs your receiver so that the proper relay hook-up, etc. can be made.

Firemen at Kiantone have purchased a 2,000 gallon tanker and plan to have this much needed apparatus in service by Labor Day. The new unit will carry County number 32 (Tanker 32).

Bear Lake, Pa. firemen have made tremendous strides: they now have a tanker in addition to a 500 g. p. m. pumper and are currently remodeling a former hardware store into a fire station.

The reserve Engine belonging to the Fire Chief's Association is presently stationed at Ellery Center where it is getting good care and some use.

#### THE INDISPENSIBLE MAN

It takes a special kind of slap-happy individual to be a volunteer fireman. A fireman ruins twenty-eight bucks worth of clothing, catches pneumonia and suffers the tortures of the damned for which he gets one free meal a year from the social fund, plus a lot of free advice about how he could have put out the fire in half the time. It doesn't make much sense, but if weren't for impractical souls who risk their necks and ruin their wardrobes without much reward, we would all burn to the ground many times.

Next to a pretty girl, sleep is the most wonderful thing in the world.



#### CIVIL DEFENSE IDENTIFICATION

The County Coordinator requests that all Chief Officers prepare a list of the active volunteer firemen in their respective Departments as soon as possible. The list should contain the name and address of each member, and it must be certified by writing at the end, "I hereby certify that the above named firemen are active members of the ----- Fire Department" signed, Chief -----.

Three copies of the list are necessary as Coordinator Hughes has to have two copies and each Chief needs one copy for future reference. Upon receipt of your list, Civil Defense identification cards will be issued by the County Director for each fireman.

Please give your list to your Battalion Coordinator or mail it directly to Ray Hughes, 302 North Main Street, Jamestown, N. Y.

#### FIRE SAFETY IN SCHOOLS

A committee to study fire safety in schools recently held an initial meeting at the offices of the State Bureau of Fire. Problems of construction, inspections, teacher training on fire education, and fire laws were discussed by the group whose members represent both school and fire service agencies throughout the State.

In line with fire safety, the National Board of Fire Underwriters has announced distribution of a new 21- page pamphlet on fire safe school buildings to educational institutions throughout the country.

Subjects covered in the pamphlet include, the limited use of combustible material, fire separation between stories, subdivision of large are buildings by fire-resisting walls, and adequate exit facilities. With the pamphlet comes an inspection blank which suggest that inspections are to be made montaly by school administrative personnel, and quarterly by such personnel accompanied by a member of the local Fire Department.

#### FIRST USE OF SIRENS

Fire Departments first used sirens on fire apparatus in 1906. These early devices were mechanically operated by a friction drive unit that worked off the fly-wheel of the automobile engine through a flexible shaft. The first use of sirens was on Chief's cars.

Later came the hand operated siren and after that the electrical unit.

#### SEEN AND HEARD

Five radio equipped engine companies of the Jamestown Fire Department are now conducting fire inspections in their respective districts. Parked near the premises being inspected, one member of the crew remains with the engine as radio operator in the event of an alarm. Eventually the inspecting team will be equipped with walkie-talkies to better keep in contact with the engine on the street.

A Chief asked us recently, "W'udon't they give the figures on the amount saved instead of on the amount lost at a fire? ". We will welcome an answer to this thought, maybe it' stime to change our ways.

Chief boyland of Portland reports that he now has in service a new emergency truck which will be listed as Conty unit # 27.

Fire Prevention week is just around the corner. Have you ordered a good supply of posters and literature? If not, see Chief "Stub" Johnson in Frewsburg.



LET'S GROW UP, NOT BURN UP

Fire Prevention Week, October 3-9, will carry this motto "Let's Grow Up, Not Burn Up" as a reminder that there are 33 deaths by fire each day in our great Nation. Most of these deaths by fire tragically involve women and children in the home. In 1953 we were also faced with the largest fire loss in U.S. history - over one billion dollars.

Because of past experience, Fire Service members expect the coming Fall and Winter months to bring the annual "cold weather" surge of fire deaths. They anticipate the familiar but tragic incidents of two, four, six or more members of some families dying by fire on wintry nights before rescue can be made.

The toll of dead and the record of financial losses compels all of us to do our part in bringing Fire Prevention knowledge to every man, woman and child throughout the next twelve months. In 1954-55 don't give fire a place to start in Chautauqua County!

TRAINING ACTIVITY REPORTED

Donald A. Sales, County Training Coordinator, has submitted the annual Fire School report. The figures presented indicate that more interest and greater participation has been achieved over the previous year; possibly the result of scheduling the three courses successively for the first time. The following is taken from Don's report:

<u>COURSE</u>	<u>REGISTERED</u>	<u>GRADUATES</u>
Basic	205	149 or 72.6%
Intermediate	147	133 or 90.0%
Advanced	128	119 or 92.9%

In the Basic Course 29 Fire Departments were represented while both the Intermediate and Advanced Courses drew men from 25 different communities. Three State of Pennsylvania Departments attended the schools, and Bear Lake, Lander and Sugar Grove firemen will soon receive New York State Training Certificates.

Again we thank all members of the Fire Service for their continued support of the training program. Your interest is encouraging.

IT CAN HAPPEN HERE

A recent report reveals the amazing fact that one out of every four Fire Department calls is made to put out an automobile fire. In one city alone last year over 600 car fires were reported, and statistics are unavailable on the thousands of autos burned on inter-city highways where there is no Fire Department service.

In most cases, the fires ruined the cars beyond repair, and the work of the Fire Department consisted mainly of preventing the spread of flames to other cars and adjoining property threatened by burning gasoline.

WASHINGTON - The U.S. Navy has issued the first revised edition of its U.S. Structural Fire Fighting Manual, originally published in 1947. It is known as "OPNAV INSTRUCTION 5560.7" and is dated 1953. Copies of the Manual may be secured at a cost of \$1.50 each from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D.C.



### FIRE SERVICE ACHIEVES RATE REDUCTIONS

The New York Fire Insurance Rating Organization recently announced rate reductions and an increase in mileage limits for most of Chautauqua County. With few exceptions, persons residing within a distance of three miles by road of a fire station now enjoy the same rate benefits formerly limited to a two mile classification.

Fire insurance rates were dropped from 5 to 10 cents per hundred along with the mileage change in most of the rural County areas. New rates are as follow:

#### ANNUAL PREMIUM

26¢ per \$100 on Buildings  
28¢ per \$100 on Contents

#### THREE YEAR PREMIUM

65¢ per \$100 on Buildings  
70¢ per \$100 on Contents

The above rates now in effect in the C-3 zones apply only to residential property. Territories beyond the three mile limit (D rate) also realized some savings so that generally the entire County, excepting the cities and incorporated villages, will pay smaller premiums.

The few areas unaffected by the rate and mileage changes should immediately write to the New York Fire Insurance Rating Organization at Syracuse, N.Y. to ascertain the reasons for no change which may be due to substandard equipment, inadequate contracts, limited contracts, insufficient equipment coverage, failure to notify Rating Organization of changes in equipment or contracts, or substandard alarm systems.

Not all counties in New York State have received such recognition from the insurance interests, and the Fire Service of Chautauqua County deserves much credit. This proves what cooperative Mutual Aid, training and radio communication systems can do for the people of our County. Congratulations to our 2,838 volunteer and 98 paid firemen!

### A DAY TO REMEMBER

Another milestone was reached on the evening of September 13th when the first station house radio receiver was connected to a fire alarm system. The event took place in Ashville where Dick Lovejoy made the initial installation of what will soon be one of the finest and most complete selective call systems for alerting Fire Departments from a central control center.

### HOW'S YOUR INDIAN PUMP?

District Forester, H. E. Krueger of the New York State Conservation Department requests that all Chief Officers inspect their Indian Pump tanks for any damages which may have occurred within the past year. If new parts are needed, please contact Mr. Krueger at his Jamestown office, or get in touch with District Ranger Button in Panama or District Ranger Hodges in Cherry Creek.

### WARREN COUNTY GETS RADIO

Our Pennsylvania brothers are presently installing a Fire Radio network which includes a base station at the Warren Fire Department headquarters and eight mobile radios in various apparatus throughout the County. Their assigned frequency differs from that in use by our network so direct truck-to-truck communication with our units will be impossible.



Raymond H. Hughes  
County Coordinator

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Willis R. Wilson  
Chairman, Advisory Board

Volume 41

Official Publication of the  
Chautauqua County Fire Advisory Board

November 1, 1954

### INSTRUCTORS ATTEND CONFERENCE

County Fire Instructors Walter Burr and Clarence Spute have returned from a week long, intensive training conference sponsored by the State Bureau of Fire. This year the conference was held in the City of Rochester the week of October 10-15. Most of the class work was conducted at the new Rochester Fire College which was completed last Spring; a joint enterprise between the City and County of Monroe costing nearly a half million dollars.

At the session each County Fire Instructor was given an opportunity to write outlines for a new course in the Graduate Training program now offered to firemen having completed Basic, Intermediate and Advanced instruction. More than one hundred Fire Instructors from New York State attended the sixth annual meeting in Rochester.

### NEWS AND VIEWS

Fire Prevention Week got off to a roaring start in the County early Sunday morning when Jamestown suffered a \$35,000.00 loss, followed Monday afternoon by the \$400,000.00 fire in Brocton which totally destroyed the main part of the Kling Furniture factory. We guess the cards were stacked against the Fire Service in spite of the effort devoted to prevention work.

Chief Fox of Brocton had recently remarked that his Department was always giving Mutual Aid. At the fire we overheard some famous last words when Chief Fox said, "It all comes back to me now." Considering the handicaps of the situation, we feel that the firemen of Brocton, Fredonia, Portland and Westfield did a grand job of working together to prevent the fire from consuming adjoining structures and adjacent property.

Firemen often get thirsty in the heat of a fire and we lately came across a couple of ideas worth relating. Youngsville, Pa. has a new 750 g.p.m. engine which is equipped with chrome plated spigots on each 2½" outlet. Fredonia's fireman, John McCraith, believes in keeping the hose connections loose at the pumper so some leakage is available to fill the tin cup. Both of these methods certainly should be adequate to quench the thirst of harassed pump operators.

The Fire Control Center reports that there were 25 fire calls in the County (including both cities) during Fire Prevention Week. In addition, the Center handled 68 miscellaneous calls for public emergencies, etc. We hope that this three fires per day average will not continue for the remainder of the year.

Ashville's open house affair was most impressive and we tip our hat to Chief Bowen and his boys on their now completed fire station. We also enjoyed seeing Kennedy's new truck room on a recent visit; there's plenty of room now even to house the famous convention Ford.

### C.D. PROGRAM FOR SCHOOLS

It has come to our attention that a directive from a Commissioner of the State Education Department has been issued to all City, Village and District Superintendents of Schools to intensify programs of Civil Defense by requiring 5 bomb shelter drills during the school year.

It is pointed out that the above drills are in addition to the regular fire drills, and that the alarm which signals bomb-shelter drills shall be of a different type from that used for fire drills.



#### FIRE-POLICE TRAINING SCHEDULED

Security Coordinator W. Chester Wilbur has announced that the annual Fire-Police Training School will be held at Celoron Fire Headquarters on Monday, November 29th and at Fredonia Fire Headquarters on Tuesday, November 30th. Classes will begin at 7:30 P.M. sharp and identical instruction is to be given at both school locations.

The teaching staff includes Sheriff Charles C. McCloskey, Jr., Lieutenant George Arnold and County Attorney Allen A. Cass. Last year's training will be reviewed briefly and new subjects together with recent legislation is to be discussed in detail.

All Chief Officers and their Assistants should attend these important sessions along with the Fire-Policemen. Students are requested to bring pencils and notebooks to class.

#### FIREMEN OFFER CHIMNEY CLEANING

Pointing out that an estimated 25 per cent of all fires are chimney fires, the Forestville Fire Department has offered to clean the chimneys of homes in their Fire District in cases where the householders are physically unable to do the work themselves. There is no charge for the service.

Firemen point out that it is easier for them to help prevent fires than it is to extinguish them. It is emphasized that soot deposits in a chimney should be removed at least once a year.

#### RADIO NETWORK TO SERVE ERIE COUNTY

Work has begun on a \$420,000 FM radio system interconnecting the City of Buffalo with 92 urban fire stations in surrounding Erie County. Contracts have been awarded to Motorola for a turnkey installation of the county-wide fire system, to be completed by the spring of 1955.

Ten 60-watt area base stations will coordinate the mutual aid firefighting of the outlying Departments, each of which will have a station house receiver equipped for selective signalling, and dual frequency mobile radios on fire apparatus.

The ten area stations and the City of Buffalo will intercommunicate by means of an unattended, fully automatic relay station located in Chestnut Ridge Park, about 14 miles southeast of Buffalo.

A five channel microwave system, complete with telemetering facilities to indicate condition of the remote equipment, will connect the Chestnut Ridge station with a similar microwave terminal atop the Buffalo City Hall.

First phase of the contracts calls for modernizing Buffalo's fire radio network for two frequency operation and extending the city system to include neighboring Lackawanna.

Because of the alerting feature, the radio system will double as a civil defense warning network, and about half the cost is being borne by matching funds of the Federal Civil Defense Administration. At least one frequency to be used by the Erie County network will be compatible with the Chautauqua County system so that truck-to-truck communications will be possible.

RUMOR HAS IT THAT - Ellery Center, Frewsburg, Kiantone, Sugar Grove and West Dunkirk Fire Departments are purchasing mobile radios; this will give us a total of 94 radio equipped fire vehicles in the County, not including Sugar Groves' three units.



#### RADIO OPERATORS TRAINING PLANNED

The County Fire Coordinator has announced that Radio Procedure Schools will be available to all Fire Departments immediately after the first of the year. School arrangements are being handled by Donald A. Sales, and the local Coordinators will serve as instructors for the three hour classes.

Teaching outlines prepared by the State Bureau of Fire are to be used in these important schools, and training aids, including walkie-talkie radios, will be available to the firemen. So that students may have ample opportunity to learn, we request that the size of each class requested be not more than 15.

For their convenience, Chief Officers are receiving postal cards on which they are to indicate first, second and third choice of dates. As soon as a schedule is worked out, the Chief will be notified.

#### DID YOU KNOW THAT-

The impulses from two-way radio sets can set off dynamite charges prematurely at highway construction projects, and mobile operators are cautioned not to transmit messages near such sites?

A fire hydrant caught fire out in Lancaster, Ohio? A passing pedestrian striking a match on the hydrant ignited natural gas fumes which had passed into it. After putting out the fire, firemen placed a "No Smoking" sign on the hydrant.

The Fire Service of the State of New York consists of 1,589 Fire Departments with a volunteer membership of 110,835 and paid personnel of 15,938, manning approximately 5,100 pieces of fire equipment?

The home telephone number of the County Fire Coordinator has been changed to Jamestown 23-205?

Paul Pierson, fire equipment salesman, loaned a Davy Fire Escape to some Department for purpose of demonstration, and now Paul can't remember which one of the 41 has it? If you have the Escape, please see that it is returned promptly.

#### FOR BALKY STANDPIPE CONNECTIONS

Often engine companies connecting hose lines to standpipe or sprinkler siamese connections are confronted with the problem of swivels on these connections that won't turn.

This is due to the fact that they are constantly exposed to the elements and some building superintendents don't give them the attention they deserve.

The problem can be overcome in either of two ways:

1. Stretch the hose so that the female end is taken to the siamese. Place a double male into the defective swivel and connect the female butt of the hose to the other side of the double male. A double female is then used on the pumper outlet.
2. Stretch the male end of the hose line to the siamese. Connect the double male to the defective swivel, connect a double female to the double male and then connect the male butt of the hose to the double female.

There was a young lady named Ransom  
Who was loved three times in a hansom.  
But when she asked for more  
Came a weak voice from the floor,  
My name is Sales - not Sampson.



Raymond H. Hughes  
County Coordinator

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Volume 44

Official Publication of the December 15, 1954  
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### RADIO FUNDS APPROVED

At the November meeting of the Advisory Board, Coordinator Raymond Hughes announced that the County has received approval for the matching funds application filed last year with the Federal Civil Defense Administration. The Federal grant amounts to about ten thousand dollars; an equal amount having been budgeted by the Board of Supervisors to purchase radio equipment.

Current plans call for the installation of a microwave relay system with a remotely controlled transmitter in the vicinity of Cassadaga to afford better coverage for those Departments along the eastern section of the County. The additional transmitter will also benefit Departments in other locations which, at present, are difficult to reach with the base station at Mayville. Also planned is the purchase of generators to supply auxiliary power for the entire network, such generators to be of the automatic self-starting type.

Network engineering calls for a switching arrangement whereby the Mayville and Cassadaga transmitters may be operated individually or at the same time. It is planned to use frequencies in the 400 megacycle band for the microwave link with rebroadcast on 46.10 megs.

### CHIEF OFFICERS DIRECTORY

With this issue of THE BOOSTER LINE we are pleased to enclose a revised listing of the Chief Fire Officers. Since the last directory was sent out six months ago, ten telephone numbers have been changed and five new Chief Officers have taken office.

If you discover an error in the listing, notify your Battalion Coordinator. It's tough to keep up with you Chiefs and the telephone companies, and your cooperation is earnestly solicited.

### DUNKIRK HAS RESCUE TRAINING CLASS

The Board of Education of Dunkirk, cooperating with the Civil Defense Commission, started an Adult Education Course for Rescue Training on October 25. Mr. Francis Hudson, a graduate of the State Rescue Training School at Albany, has been conducting the ten week course at the Tank Corps Armory.

We hope that many Dunkirk firemen and others have availed themselves of this worth while training, and in the future if any more classes are held, we will try to notify you ahead of time.

### WORTH MENTION

The Fire Control Center reports that a total of 101 fire or public emergency calls were handled during the month of October. Of these, 21 requests for Mutual Aid were recorded. This averages better than one emergency every eight hours for the Fire Service.

Dick Lovejoy reports that he has completed installation of all station house receivers and is now working on a couple of "bugs" in the selective signalling equipment. By the first of the year, the Control Center will be calling you via radio instead of telephone.

Just a reminder to those Departments who have not sent in their membership lists to Ray Hughes. Your Civil Defense cards are waiting.

The Advisory Board members wish you a very, very

- MERRY CHRISTMAS -