

Raymond H. Hughes  
County Coordinator

THE  
B O O S T E R  
LINE

Willis R. Wilson  
Chairman, Advisory Board

Volume 45

Official Publication of the  
Chautauqua County Fire Advisory Board

January 1, 1955

### FIVE YEARS OF PROGRESS

As we enter a new year, the Fire Service of Chautauqua County is thankful for the blessing of progress and all the good that has come of real hard work through the spirit of cooperation. Few, if any, organizations as large as our Fire Service can point to so many great achievements which have been fostered by men for mankind without regard to compensation or reward. It's Democracy in action, and we are proud to be a member.

Five short years ago this month a small group of men were planning a new communications system and already a dozen Fire Departments had expressed their faith by purchasing mobile radios. Selling was tough; raising money even tougher, but at the end of six months our first call card listed 24 radio equipped vehicles. That first voice over the air, "Can you hear me?" opened up a new era of firefighting.

About this same time, the State Bureau of Fire offered us a new training program. The first classes were sellouts and some had to be turned away; men who were anxious to progress themselves. For the first time paid and volunteer forces learned together and each came to respect the other. Progress over tradition has been gained and now all tie the knot the same.

Five new Departments have organized in these short years to offer better protection to their neighbors. Stimulated growth never common where lack of leadership persists, is evident here and represents a foreward trend so like the Fire Service.

Mutual Aid of the preplanned, orderly variety was born five years back. Hours of planning, days of planning, running charts and trial and error built the best plan going. Now "subscribed to" by all our brothers, be they large or small. Progress toward a unified Service resulting in rate reductions, local benefits and help in time of need.

We could bring back more memories, but would this be progress? No, let us try to improve a little more in 1955 and the four years that follow so that when we reach another milepost in public protection we can pause a moment and reflect; "I'm proud to be a member of the Chautauqua County Fire Service".

### HURRICAN HAZEL COSTLY TO BELL

The dependability - or lack of it - of the telephone as an instrument of fire service communications is indicated by the following data taken from "Industrial Communications" of October 25, 1954.

"The biggest communications restoration job in years - mending the effects of Hurricane Hazel along the East Coast - was substantially completed Wednesday, October 20, five days after the storm had entered the U.S. mainland. For the Bell System alone, the \$5,500,000 damage raised the total for the three hurricanes since August to \$17,500,000. The 491,000 telephones affected boosted the toll from the three storms to about 1,119,000 Bell telephones."

A BONUS - With this issue of THE BOOSTER LINE you will find an apparatus inventory which, we hope, will supply information oftentimes requested by our readers. Perhaps this too will clarify the County Numbering system, and it should be noted that the apparatus number corresponds with the radio call. Please call our attention to errors.

#### USE YOUR BREATH, MAN

It's getting so that the "smoke eater" hardly deceives anybody. Evidence of this showed in the cynical comment of a citizen who recently watched members of a local fire department attack a small, but smoky fire in a residence. A number of the fire fighters had entered the building without their gas masks, only to return to their apparatus, choking from smoke inhalation. The citizen's comment went something like this: "Lookit them! They got masks on the truck and they don't use them! Whatta bunch of actors!"

To avoid such public reaction in the future the fire service has two courses of action. Either all masks should be stored where the public cannot see them; or else all fire fighters should have the masks ready for quick use and wear them whenever they enter a building involved by fire.

Remember, breathing apparatus helps rescue efforts, guards the lives of firemen, cuts down fire losses and minimizes water damage. Only with proper breathing equipment can the origin of many fires be located early enough to prevent their spread to conflagration proportions.

#### BALLS OF SNOW SAVE CAT

There's more than one way to save a cat. When Rochester firemen failed in their attempts to rescue a cat risking its neck on the ice in the Genesee River, Battalion Chief Cobb thought a moment, then ordered his men to line up on the shore and fire snowballs at the stubborn animal.

A few well-aimed shots sent the animal scurrying to the opposite bank and safety.

#### NETWORK NEWS

Our Radio Technician advises that he is now checking the frequencies and modulation of all mobile and base station radios; a job that is required by the Federal Communications Commission every six months. On his rounds, Dick will make final tests of the selective call station house receivers and hook them up permanently in the presence of a Chief Officer. If you have any questions about the selective signalling set up or your mobile units, now's the time to ask Dick.

The interest demonstrated in learning how to better operate your radio network is a bit discouraging. Only 17 Departments requested that Radio Procedure Schools be held at their headquarters. We can all do better and some mobile operators really need training badly. Write or call Don Sales if you wish to have a school for your men.

Sugar Grove F.D. has purchased two mobile radios for their new Engine 631. One unit will be fixed on our frequencies, and the other will transmit and receive on 33.98; the Warren County Fire Radio frequency. This arrangement will permit relay of messages from any point in Chautauqua County to the Warren County Fire Control Center or visa versa. Engine 631 will be the first apparatus to be equipped with two radios in this area.

We thank all of the Sheriff's Department personnel for giving of their time and efforts in acting as our dispatchers on the network, and we appreciate the many times Dunkirk, Fredonia, Jamestown and Lakewood firemen have assisted with relaying messages through their base stations.

# CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY FIRE SERVICE RADIO COMMUNICATION SYSTEM

## FIRST AND SECOND BATTALIONS

46.10 Megacycles  
Base and Mobile

BASE STATIONS	CALL
COUNTY CONTROL CENTER.....	KEB-909
Dunkirk Fire Department.....	KED-653
Fredonia Fire Department.....	KEC-505
Silver Creek Fire Department.....	KEE-472

46.22 Megacycles  
Mobile

MOBILE RADIOS	CALL	MOBILE RADIOS	CALL	MOBILE RADIOS	CALL
County Coordinator .....	M 72	DUNKIRK .....	(Chief) Car 2	MAPLE SPRINGS .....	Engine 21
Security Coordinator .....	M 73		Engine 121		M 26
Training Coordinator .....	M 75		Engine 122	MAYVILLE .....	Engine 27
Communications Coordinator ..	M 76		Engine 123		Engine 28
Equipment Coordinator .....	M 77		Engine 124	PORTLAND .....	Engine 210
Radio Technician .....	Car 70		Truck 121	RIPLEY .....	M 24
Fire Commissioner .....	Car 74		M 122	SHERIDAN .....	Engine 19
Member Advisory Board ...	Car 100	EAST DUNKIRK .....	Engine 117		Tanker 12
BROCTON .....	Engine 211	FINDLEY LAKE .....	Tanker 24	SHERMAN .....	Engine 25
	Engine 212	FORESTVILLE .....	Engine 17	SILVER CREEK .....	Engine 13
CASSADAGA .....	Engine 113	FREDONIA .....	(Chief) Car 51		Engine 14
CHAUTAUQUA .....	Engine 213*		(Chief) Car 52		Engine 15
	Engine 214		Engine 10	SINCLAIRVILLE .....	Engine 114
	Engine 215		Engine 11	STOCKTON .....	Engine 111
CHERRY CREEK .....	Engine 110		Engine 12	WESTFIELD .....	Engine 220
DEWITTVILLE .....	Engine 24		M 12		Truck 21
	M 23	IRVING .....	Engine 16		M 22

\*Denotes Walkie-Talkie

**Codes:**

- "10-4" Acknowledgment or O.K.
- "10-7" Out of Service (radio off or unattended)
- "10-8" In Service (radio on or apparatus in use)

When Radio cannot  
be used call Control  
Center by phone  
Mayville 5-131 (collect)  
(over)

**Codes:**

- "C-10" First Battalion Coordinator
- "C-20" Second Battalion Coordinator
- "C-30" Third Battalion Coordinator
- "C-40" Fourth Battalion Coordinator

## THIRD AND FOURTH BATTALIONS

COUNTY CONTROL CENTER.....	KEB-909
Falconer Fire Department .....	KEE-401
Jamestown Fire Department .....	KEC-503
Lakewood Fire Department.....	KED-818

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Security Coordinator .....	M 73	FALCONER .....	Engine 42		(Civil Defense) M 322*
Training Coordinator .....	M 75		M 41		(Civil Defense Control Center) M 323
Communications Coordinator ..	M 76	FLUVANNA .....	Engine 48	KENNEDY .....	Engine 44
Equipment Coordinator .....	M 77		Engine 49*		Engine 413
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Member Advisory Board .....	Car 100	FREWSBURG .....	Engine 41		Tanker 32
ASHVILLE .....	(Chief) Car 55		Engine 414	LAKESWOOD .....	Engine 38
	Engine 311	GERRY .....	Tanker 41		Engine 39
	Engine 312		M 45		Hose 32
BEMUS POINT .....	Engine 410	JAMESTOWN .....	(Chief) Car 1		Rescue 31
	M 43		Engine 1		(Boat) Rescue 32
BUSTI .....	Engine 37		Engine 2	PANAMA .....	Engine 35
	Tanker 31		Engine 3		Engine 36
	M 35		Engine 4	SUGAR GROVE .....	Engine 631
CELORON .....	Engine 33		Engine 5		Tanker 631
	Engine 34		Truck 1		M 631*
CLYMER .....	Engine 313		Truck 2		

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### THIRD YEAR OF PUBLICATION

In keeping with policy, THE BOOSTER LINE begins its third year of publication in a different motif. We hope this new buff color will appeal to you and afford a touch of variety to spice your life.

When on February 1, 1953 our first issue hit the "stands", your acclaim was most gratifying. Today we appreciate our readers' continued support and enthusiasm, and we will always welcome your suggestions or comments.

Should you desire more or less copies or know someone who would like to "subscribe" to THE BOOSTER LINE, please pass the word on to any Coordinator or member of the Advisory Board.

### PERSONS IN THE NEWS

Findley Lake firemen recently elected George Bradley as Chief of Department. George served in a similar capacity during 1953, and we wish the new Chief a successful and fire safe year.

District Forester, E. E. Krueger of the New York State Conservation Department has received a promotion and will move to Lewis County this month. We will all miss "Hank", and his leaving can only be considered as a great personal loss to the local Fire Service. We have enjoyed working with you, Hank, and best of luck in your new job.

Raymond L. Miller has been elected Chief of the Lakewood Fire Department following the resignation of Ralph J. Anderson. To you, Ray, our congratulations and best wishes for a low loss year.

From Albany comes word that Thomas W. Ryan, formerly Director of the Division of Safety, has been appointed to a position on the State Senate. The Governor has selected Mr. Michael H. Prendergast as the new Director of Safety; top boss of the State Bureau of Fire.

### FIRE POLICE BELTS

At the recent Fire Police Schools, Lt. George Arnold promised to look up information on safety belts. According to Lt. Arnold, such belts may be purchased from the Hope Webbing Co., Providence 1, Rhode Island. They are known as "Nite-Glo Traffic Belts", Pattern No. 32026, and the price is \$4.75 for the 12 foot belt and \$5.00 for the 15 foot belt.

We suggest that you contact the Lieutenant at the Jamestown Police Department should you wish more specific information.

### CHANNEL CHATTER

All mobile radio operators are cautioned not to transmit within hearing range of the station house receivers to prevent "feed back"; a high pitched howl. It may be necessary to drive the apparatus out of doors when using a mobile radio so that your transmission will not carry through the receiver and feed back into your microphone. Chief Officers are requested to advise their men of this possibility as too. Dispatchers at Mayville can not receive your message above the howl.

Radio Procedure Schools scheduled for February are as follows:  
Tuesday the 1st at Irving, Thursday the 10th at Eusti, Tuesday the 15th at Cherry Creek, Friday the 25th at Erocton and Wednesday the 16th at Kiantone. Also a school will be held at Frewsburg on Wednesday the 9th. Requests for instruction are still being handled by Don Sales; Tel. No. Lakewood 6-931.

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#### AROUND THE COUNTY

Willis R. Wilson of Westfield, our Board Chairman, has been selected by the Executive Committee of the Firemen's Association of the State of New York to serve on the Board of Trustees of the Firemen's Home on the Hudson. Bill Wilson is a past president of the Southwestern Association of Volunteer Firemen which endorsed his candidacy and a former Chief of the Westfield Fire Department.

The County Fire Control Center reports that there were 81 fire and public emergency calls during the month of December. Seven of these alarms required Mutual Aid. The above figures include the two cities and indicate a reduction in the number of emergencies handled by the Fire Service the previous month.

Dewittville firemen have elected Delbert Latto as their new Chief succeeding Kenneth Arnold. We understand that "Red" has given up the radio in Car 54 for installation in the new Engine 24. The new Chevrolet pumper is one of the finest in the County and a tribute to the many hours of work by the local firemen.

#### LIVINGSTON COUNTY RADIO COMPLETE

Radio communications for the Fire Service in Livingston County, New York, is now a reality after four years of planning and work by the County Fire Advisory Board, the County Fire Coordinator, Gil W. Jenkins, and the Board of Supervisors.

At the present time there are 25 mobile two-way radio units in the County, at least one in every Fire Department. Each Department is also equipped with a radio receiver and a selective calling unit so that the Fire Control Center in the Sheriff's Office at Geneseo can sound any one or all alarms via radio.

The Control Center base station for the network is manned 24 hours a day and has the call letters KED-602. Total cost of the new radio set up is \$32,000.00 of which the Federal government paid about half as part of the Civil Defense matching fund program.

#### FIREFIGHTING ON THE THRUWAY

First and Second Battalion Fire Departments will be interested in knowing that the Thruway is considered a part of the communities through which it runs and therefore is construed by law to be the responsibility of that locality as far as fire protection is concerned. However, since the local Department may not have access to the highway, Thruway authorities will advise the County Fire Control Center of all fire calls so that the Departments nearest the interchanges may be dispatched to the scene.

As to the question of firemen entering the interchanges in private automobiles, Thruway representatives say they will be admitted on the strength of their fireman's badge when a state of emergency exists.

Fire apparatus on the Thruway will be permitted to make a U-turn over the center mall and into the opposite lane of traffic. Full responsibility for apparatus on the Thruway lies with the community in which it is operating, as the calling community, under Section 209 of the General Municipal Law.

Firemen working on the super highway are fully covered for injuries under the provisions of the General Municipal Law.

### STOP AND THINK IT OVER

Did you ever stop and think, especially about some of our purposes and plans? We have in mind at this particular time - Civil Defense. How many of us have made it our business to find out the basic plans and reasons for Civil Defense?

Did you know that in New York State, Civil Defense is the top priority emergency service; the clearing house for all emergency services, particularly in case of attack? Civil Defense is the only organization through which matching funds may be secured, and it is the only organization charged with the overall protection of life and property during an attack or State directed emergency. C.D. is also one of the most important Mutual Aid connections for the Fire Service.

We could go on and list many more facts, but we would rather leave it to each individual to think over what has been mentioned and hope that every citizen will make himself available for some service in Civil Defense.

Every member of a family has a place in Civil Defense that will not interfere too much with a normal way of life. Look around at our accomplishments in the Fire Service; all made possible through the cooperation of volunteer work; and then remember, Civil Defense has 19 separate divisions of which our Fire Service is only one. To do the proper job at the proper time, all of these divisions must be as well organized as the Fire Service. Failure of one may break the entire chain.

It's your safety as an individual that's involved; so it's your responsibility to see that each of these C.D. divisions function. Stop and think it over! What will your family do when you are called out on fire duty?

### INSTRUCTORS RECEIVE TRAINING AIDS

With Fire Training Schools beginning next month, it is of interest to note that the Advisory Board utilizing monies appropriated by the Supervisors has purchased training aids for our Instructors. The most recent acquisition is a 16mm. movie projector with screen for use with the State Fire Bureau films.

Instructors Walter Burr and Clarence Spute also have been supplied with the following aids; a complete self-contained Chemox breathing mask, a dry powder extinguisher, a set of double male and double female adaptors (chrome plated), a hose clamp, and a 12' x 18' salvage cover.

### NEWS BRIEFS AND COMMENT

To date 228 firemen have attended the Radio Procedure Schools, and requests for additional schools are still coming in as well as initial requests. About thirty Departments are now signed up, and scheduled for March are schools at: Falconer on Thursday the 10th and Fredonia on Wednesday the 16th.

Falconer firemen have received the license for their new base station. The call letters are KEE-401. Richard Lathrop was recently made Chief of the Falconer Fire Department. Congratulations "Dick"!

We enclose with this issue of THE BOOSTER LINE a true story which we hope you will enjoy. "Race With Flaming Death" is a historical gem and truly a part of our heritage. A few extra copies are available to our readers upon request through the County Fire Coordinator.



#### FREWSBURG FIREMAN INJURED

All of us are familiar with the tragedy that occurred on the evening of January 31 when Fireman Paul Dudgeon was critically injured in line of duty. It was only a chimney fire, and the Frewsburg Department was returning to headquarters when Fireman Dudgeon lost control of his car on a slippery country road. Although regrettable, the accident has one faint glimmer of hope and thanksgiving - the County Self Insurance Plan.

It is of interest to trace the compensation procedure in this instance because of the nature of the accident and skepticism of some in our County Plan. Chief Johnson facilitated matters by appearing in person at the office of Slone Melhuish & Co.; agent for the County; to properly fill out the compensation forms.

The seriousness of Fireman Dudgeon's injuries indicated that coverage under the provisions of Section 205 of the General Municipal Law would be limited so immediate steps were taken to provide full coverage through statutory provisions of Workman's Compensation. To date all medical expenses including hospital, doctors fees, private nurses and a specialist from Erie, Pa. have been paid by the County.

Ten days after the accident Fireman Dudgeon received his first compensation pay in the amount of \$72.00 for the two week period beginning January 31. Henceforth he will receive \$36.00 weekly; the maximum permitted by law.

It is reassuring to know that our Self Insurance Plan does work and work rapidly, thanks to Mr. Malcolm Moore's efficient managing. At this time Paul Dudgeon has had to remain in Jamestown's W.C.A. Hospital for well over a month. We hope and pray that Paul will recover and we trust in our Insurance Plan to carry us through financial burdens.

#### 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 Stanley Loomis from North Harmony, Supervisor Walter J. Peterson from Gerry, Supervisor Emmett Eckman from Busti, Supervisor Richard Evans from Ellery, Willis R. Wilson of Westfield, John Washington of Cassadaga, George V. Blackstone of Lakewood, John Sommers of Mayville, Thomas Bretz of Ripley, Chief Richard F. Lathrop of Falconer, Chief Charles R. Dorman of Jamestown, Sheriff Charles C. McCloskey, Jr. of Mayville, Supervisor Robert Tanner of Sinclairville, Commissioner Ivan I. Velzy of Silver Creek, Chief Arthur Howles of Clymer, Chief Lloyd Johnson of Frewsburg, Chief Irvin B. Bowen of Ashville, Chief Vernon Crandall of Kennedy, Walter Gloor of Fredonia, Merle Ferguson of Brocton, Edward Bulman of Celoron, Samuel Lord of Fluvanna, Rolland A. Taft of Kiantone, and H. W. Wollaman of Sheridan. Raymond H. Hughes was reappointed Coordinator.

At the February meeting of the Advisory Board the following were elected to office: Willis R. Wilson, Chairman for the fifth consecutive year; John Washington, First Vice Chairman; George V. Blackstone; Second Vice Chairman; Thomas Bretz, Recording Secretary; and Rolland A. Taft, Corresponding Secretary.

DON'T FORGET! Fire Schools are scheduled to begin at Westfield on April 4th, at Fredonia on April 3rd, at Ashville on April 6th, and at Falconer on April 7th.

### SUGGESTED LINE OFFICERS STANDARDS

Since the end of World War II, marked improvements have been made in fire fighting equipment, and the methods and techniques of fire control have become highly specialized. Great strides have been taken in the field of fire education, and practically every fire department in our nation is engaged in some program of fireman education and training.

The State Bureau of Fire offers us excellent opportunity each year in the Basic, Intermediate and Advanced training courses. Now for the first time graduate training is available in a new course titled Single Company Operations. All this and more to come will be of little value to us unless we practice what we learn in our own headquarters as well as use the acquired skills in everyday fire fighting.

In spite of our opportunities and many improvements, one phase of the Fire Service has not kept pace. Some departments still have untrained, poorly prepared and inexperienced line officers. Many men are elevated to officer rank in terms of popularity or personal appeal rather than on the basis of fitness.

We suggest that to be eligible for nomination, officer candidates should meet the following requirements:

#### CHIEF:

1. Must be a graduate of the Basic, Intermediate and Advanced courses of the New York State Fire Training Program.
2. Must be a resident taxpayer of the area served by the department and at least 30 years of age.
3. Must have a fire alarm record of answering 100 or more calls.
4. Must have been an active fireman for 5 or more years.
5. Must have served one year or more as a junior line officer.

#### ASSISTANT CHIEF:

1. Must be a graduate of the Basic, Intermediate and Advanced courses of the New York State Fire Training Program.
2. Must have a fire alarm record of answering 65 or more calls.
3. Must have been an active fireman for at least 4 years.
4. Must have served one year or more as a junior line officer.

#### CAPTAIN OR LIEUTENANT:

1. Must be a graduate of the Basic, Intermediate and Advanced courses of the New York State Fire Training Program.
2. Must have a fire alarm record of answering 35 or more calls.
3. Must have been an active fireman for at least 3 years.

### A FEW ITEMS OF INTEREST

The Security Coordinator reports that there are currently 332 Fire Policemen in the County Fire Service.

Kiantone's new Tanker 32 and Frewsburg's new Engine 414 now have mobile radios installed. County network totals 92 mobile units in operation; the second largest system in New York State.

Chester Burroughs has been elected Chief of the Mayville Fire Department. We often hear Chet on the radio as he is a full time employee at the Control Center usually working one of the night treks.

All selective call, station house receivers are now hooked up and working. When calling the Control Center for Mutual Aid, be specific in what you want and where you want it.

Firemen holding State Fire Training Certificates may enroll in the Single Company Operations course at Gerry on April 1st or at Kiantone on April 5th.

FIRE SERVICE ACTIVE IN '54

An alarm report recently released by Communications Coordinator John Gollnitz reveals considerable Fire Service activity during 1954. The data is compiled from alarm records at the Control Center and includes both cities. Most fire and public emergency calls appear to occur during the Summer months with the heaviest toll during the month of April due to grass fires.

In the table below, Fire Alarms include all actual runs made to extinguish fires. Non-Fire Emergencies include all runs made by the Fire Service to assist the public such as resuscitator calls, drowning or rescue calls, searching for missing persons, highway accidents, etc. Requests for Mutual Aid may be for Fire or Non-Fire Emergencies and indicates the number of times more than one Fire Department responded to a given emergency.

	<u>MONTH</u>	<u>FIRE ALARMS</u>	<u>NON-FIRE EMERGENCIES</u>	<u>REQUESTS FOR MUTUAL AID</u>
A	January	57	44	14
L	February	71	20	12
A	March	84	16	15
R	April	151	28	10
M	May	104	31	9
	June	133	29	25
R	July	110	37	12
E	August	85	30	5
P	September	64	22	10
O	October	93	40	21
R	November	61	31	11
T	December	68	26	7
	Total	1081	354	151

POUGHKEEPSIE, N.Y. - A chatty farm wife was indicted here by a grand jury that accused her of willfully refusing to surrender a party line for a fire alarm. Mrs. Mary Kayes, 42, has denied any interference last Jan. 21 when Fire Warden Donald Townsend tried to break into her long distance conversation to report a fire on his own property.

Townsend claimed Mrs. Kayes chattered on blithely for 15 minutes despite his plea for her to get off the line. He finally drove 10 miles to get to another telephone line. Meanwhile, his barn burned at a loss of \$2,500.

This Dutchess County indictment will provide the first test of a new law that makes it a misdemeanor to refuse to yield a party line for an emergency call. The law was fostered by the Gerry Fire Department.

SPRING CLEAN-UP TIME

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. Why not write to the N.F.P.A. Publications Department, 60 Batterymarch Street, Boston 10, Massachusetts.

#### COMMUNICATIONS JEOPARDIZED

It has come to our attention that some unidentified transmitting unit frequently comes "on the air" without apparent cause and for several minutes at irregular times. Attempts have been made by those monitoring the network to identify the unknown interference but no reply has been secured or evidence uncovered.

The transmissions furnish little or no modulation, and at one time only a slight background noise was audible. Signal strength is considerable although it has not been measured accurately and would jeopardize all radio communications, particularly the selective call tones.

A recent bulletin from the State Bureau of Fire calls attention to the fact that Oswego County has experienced similar interference, but we are not sure of possible relationship at this time.

All base station and mobile radio operators are requested to make note and record the time of any unidentified transmissions in which a carrier is on but no voice or distinguishing noise can be heard. Such information should immediately be given to the Control Center where a complete survey will be kept. If the interference persists, the F.C.C. will be asked to investigate.

#### NEW APPARATUS IN SERVICE

The Kennedy Fire Department has placed in service a new 3/4 ton panel truck fully equipped for emergency work. The unit carries resuscitation equipment as well as floodlights and other related tools for fire or non-fire emergencies. County Number of the new truck is K-47.

Chautauqua firemen are the proud possessors of a new 1500 gallon tanker which was constructed on a converted White school bus chassis. The tanker has a six man enclosed cab, and its County Number will be Tanker 25.

Findley Lake Engine 216 will soon be replaced with a new 500 g.p.m. pumper being built by Young Fire Equipment Co. of Buffalo. The largest Chevrolet chassis is being used, and the booster tank has a capacity of 500 gallons. The present Engine 216 is nineteen years old.

#### MEASURE YOUR HOSE

We are quite concerned over the apparent lack of integrity among some of the leading manufacturers of fire hose. The other day we happened to see some new 2½" hose unrolled and the fifty foot lengths were lying side by side. Much to our amazement there was as much as three feet difference in the length of a section; several being only about 48 feet long.

In a thousand feet of fire hose this shortage in measure adds up to a considerable amount, and the average Fire Department may be "out" several sections for which they paid a premium price. Further investigation of hose in other Departments reveals similar shortage, and we recommend that you measure your hose.

#### RADIO TROUBLE CARDS

Each Chief Officer will receive a postal card upon which he may advise Dick Lovejoy of any repairs needed for a base station, mobile radio or station house receiver. If immediate repair is necessary, do not use the postal card but call the Control Center who, in turn, will notify Dick. A new trouble card will be issued after each repair job.

#### NEWS AND VIEWS AROUND THE COUNTY

New radio call cards have been distributed to all Chief Officers, and if by chance you did not receive your cards or if you want more, please contact your Battalion Coordinator. Two base stations and five mobile radios have been added to the network.

We welcome station KEE-472 owned and operated by the Silver Creek Fire Department to our ever growing radio communications system. This new transmitter emits 60 watts of radio frequency power and will be of great value to all Departments in the Town of Hanover.

The Frewsburg Fire Department wishes to thank all members of the Fire Service for their splendid cooperation in helping to raise money for the Paul Dudgeon Fund. One thousand one hundred plus persons attended the benefit party at Fluvanna and approximately twenty-five hundred dollars were collected from proceeds of the party and through the many generous donations. True Mutual Aid for a fellow fireman!

Bemus Point firemen have added a Metro International emergency truck to their fine Department. The new rig is a fitting addition to the recently completed and most spacious headquarters station. County Number of the emergency truck is M-46.

Plans and surveys are rapidly being completed for the bidding and ultimate purchase of the Cassadaga Hill transmitter which will be operated by micro-wave relay from the Control Center. Self-starting, fully automatic auxiliary generators will be installed to insure continuous operation of the Fire Radio network; an obvious need from the experience of several power failures from normal sources.

#### BOOK FOR RESUSCITATOR SQUADS

Thomas S. Ward, Supervisor of Fire Training, Department of Education, 721 Capitol Avenue, Sacramento, California, has announced publication of a new training text entitled "Emergency First Aid and Life Saving for Resuscitator Squads," by Carl J. Kistle.

This 88 page mimeographed document is available from that office at a cost of 40 cents per copy. It discusses methods of artificial respiration, care and use of resuscitators and inhalators, poisons, shock, diseases and physical ailments or injuries which resuscitator squads are likely to encounter.

The text also suggests records and report forms and equipment which would be useful to emergency squads. A must for every Department.

#### REPORTS ON FIRE TRAINING

According to the Training Coordinator, the Single Company Operations Course got off to a good start at Gerry on April 1st with 18 firemen enrolled, and at Kiantone on April 5th with 17 participating. Single Company Operations will be taught at Brocton beginning May 13th and at Mayville on May 17th. All firemen holding State Fire Training Certificates are eligible to attend the Single Company Operations schools consisting of eighteen hours of instruction.

Intermediate training will begin at Westfield on May 16th, at Ashville on May 18th, at Falconer on May 19th and at Fredonia on May 29th.

The first Basic training school for this year opened at Fredonia on April 3rd with 22 firemen enrolled, and on the following day at Westfield 15 registered for the same Course. At Ashville twenty-three student firemen signed up for the Basic, while Falconer's beginning class attracted 35 smoke-eaters.

### RADIO SCHOOLS IMPROVE COMMUNICATIONS

A decided improvement in fire communications has been noted ever since the Radio Procedure Schools were started last January. To date, thirty-five schools have been held with a total attendance of 512 firemen, or an average of 14.6 students per class.

The dispatchers at the Control Center, at Jamestown and at other locations find that messages do not have to be repeated as often, and that the average mobile operator speaks more distinctly, slowly and with a great deal more confidence. Proper terminology has also improved.

The Advisory Board appreciates the fine cooperation demonstrated by our firemen in making these schools so worth while and successful. We wish to thank the ten volunteer instructors who devoted much time to class preparations and actual teaching.

### AIR RAID SIGNALS CHANGED

A recent order of the Federal Civil Defense Administration has changed the procedures for air raid signals throughout the nation. Henceforth, an "alert" will be given by a three to five minutes blast of sirens, and a rising and falling tone or short blasts for three minutes will be the signal "to take cover."

At the present time the "all clear" signal has been abandoned because of the uncertainty of the scope and direction of fallout radio active particles resulting from blasts of atomic weapons.

Plans are now being formulated for Civil Defense test exercises to be held June 15, 16 and 17 on a national basis. The County Fire Service will participate in Control Center practice and other activities which are to be announced by the County Coordinator acting as Deputy Director of Civil Defense. Undoubtedly a test "alert" will take place Statewide.

### FROM HERE, THERE AND EVERYWHERE

The Jamestown Fire Department has placed in service a new 500 gpm. Engine of their own design and construction. An unusual feature is the all welded stainless steel booster tank having a capacity of 200 gals. The new rig will be housed at the Newland Avenue station as Engine 3.

All Chief Officers are requested to advise the Control Center as soon as possible following an alarm of the type and extent of fire or emergency to which they have responded. It is particularly important to notify the Control Center if an injury or death occurs at the scene. Details are not necessary; only a brief description of the situation is required. Such information will be used for insurance purposes.

The enclosed Chief Officers list has been revised to date, and we hope near accuracy has been achieved. If any errors have been committed, please contact your Battalion Coordinator.

We regret learning of the fatal accident near Wattsburg, Pa. on April 7th when Fireman Richard Hubbel was crushed to death when the Wattsburg Tanker overturned responding to an alarm of fire. Let us be ever cautious, observe the 40 m.p.h. speed limit and remember that it is better to get the apparatus to the scene than try to save a minute.

Mayville firemen will soon have in service a new 1000 gallon tanker which is being built by the Pennsylvania Furnace and Iron Co. in Warren. An International Model 162 chassis is being used, and the unit will be designated as Tanker 26. Engine 29 has been dismantled and sold.

An Ounce of Prevention is Worth a Ton of Ashes!

#### TO KEEP IN MIND

Having recently attended the 15th annual Western Safety Conference at Buffalo, Coordinator Gollnitz brings back this important information to keep in mind about the danger of high tension wires and TV antennas.

Most guy wires for TV antennas have a 600 pound tensile strength, but the corrosive action of fumes from a chimney may cause such wires to deteriorate to a possible 10 pound strength. Thus it does not take much wind to snap a guy wire.

If high tension wires run adjacent to an antenna and the antenna should lean or fall against the wires, a fire or possible explosion may occur. It is likely that this condition will cause the circuit breakers to operate at a sub-station, but the breakers will normally reset causing a resumption of current flowing through the building affected.

Firemen may be called to extinguish a fire in an occupancy where the above circumstances prevail, and extreme caution must be exercised. Any personal contact with the building may cause severe shock, and the power should be shut off before fire fighting operations begin.

A Fort Wayne, Indiana fireman's life was recently saved because a demonstration of the above circumstances was made just prior to a call involving a TV antenna leaning against a high tension wire.

#### GOVERNOR SIGNS EMERGENCY BILL

Civil Defense forces may now be called out to assist in such natural disasters as fires, floods and severe storms under a new State law. The measure, signed by Governor Harriman, provides that city or county Civil Defense forces shall be regarded as reserve disaster units to be activated by a mayor or sheriff when such responsible public official is convinced that the regular resources are insufficient to cope with the disaster.

The law also provides that the Governor can call out all or any part of the State Civil Defense personnel to help a county, city, town or village. Signing of the bill took place on May 4th.

#### TRAIN DERAILMENT PROVES FIRE RADIO SYSTEM

The Rensselaer County Fire Radio Communication System had its first major disaster test on April 2nd at the scene of the New York Central train derailment near Casleton, N.Y. According to County Coordinator J. J. Leary, Jr., the radio system allowed many volunteers to participate in rescue work and much emergency equipment was moved very quickly to the scene.

Local officials praised the work of the Fire Police in assisting State Police and Sheriff's Department personnel in keeping spectators away from the scene and in keeping the roads open for emergency vehicles between Albany and Castleton to move the injured to the hospitals.

#### BELL APPOINTED COORDINATOR

Norman H. Bell of Sheridan has been appointed Deputy Coordinator of the First Battalion. "Norm" is a past president of the County Volunteer Firemen's Association and is currently an officer in the Sheridan Fire Department. We welcome Norm to this important position.

DON'T FORGET to reset your station house receiver after your alarm has been activated by the Control Center.

#### C.D. SCATTER DRILLS PROVE SUCCESSFUL

Another unique activity to keep the Fire Service always prepared has been developed by the County Coordinator and his staff in cooperation with the local Departments. Known as "scatter drills", the object of such training is to teach firemen how to protect themselves and their apparatus from enemy air attack, particularly during convoy movements.

Instruction is given on the proper manner to camouflage apparatus from aerial observation, and personnel are trained to take effective cover for maximum protection. The use of tarpaulins and natural foliage is emphasized for concealing apparatus. Bright chrome, warning lights and other distinguishing features of fire equipment are given special consideration during the drills, and deployment is practiced.

During one phase of the first "scatter drill", held on May 16th, a local newspaper photographer drove past a five company convoy in broad daylight and didn't see a single unit or fireman. This incident alone proves the effectiveness of proper cover.

Before the year is out it is planned to give each Department an opportunity to participate in at least one Civil Defense scatter drill.

#### JAMESTOWN PROMOTES HOSE POOLS

Although discussed for some time by the Advisory Board, the idea of establishing reserve hose pools has been greatly stimulated by Chief Norman who recently donated 500 feet of 2½ inch hose for general Fire Service use.

Tentative plans call for the set up of hose pools in the northern and southern areas of the County at locations, not only convenient, but where hose can be given proper care and storage. Following a fire, any Department not having a hose reload for their apparatus may borrow from a pool until their own hose is dry or repaired. Pool hose can also be used during conflagrations or a local water shortage.

If Departments using 2½ inch hose are able or willing to contribute one or two lengths of hose, each pool will have from 1,000 to 1,200 feet; an average reload. Thread adaptors will be provided by the County when necessary. Donations will be gratefully accepted by your Coordinator, and pool locations will be announced later in this paper.

#### CROP DRYERS A FIRE HAZARD

Since the season for cutting and storing hay is at hand, it is well to note that the commercial manufacture of heated air crop dryers with fan installations is a relatively new undertaking on the farm but is one labor saving device meeting wide acclaim and quite generally installed in this area.

Extensive experience with heated air crop driers indicates that the fire hazard is extremely great with improperly or carelessly constructed devices. In all cases, it is recommended that such crop dryers be used outside of main buildings and never on a dry barn floor, in a granary or in a storage building.

Chief Officers wishing more information on crop dryers should obtain Pamphlet No. 93, titled "Standards for Dehydrators and Driers", from the National Fire Protection Association, 60 Batterymarch Street, Boston 10, Mass. at 35¢ per copy.

Knowledge and Good Equipment result in Better Fire Fighting



#### MARTYN SUGGESTS TOOL INVENTORY

In the past we have published various suggestions, and now from Assistant Chief Martyn of the Jamestown Fire Department comes an idea well worth considering. He writes:

"Modern fire fighting methods call for a great deal more tools and appliances than in the past, and this equipment seems to be on the increase, which makes it almost impossible for any member of the fire service to remember them all.

"Also, modern fire apparatus today is built along enclosed lines with many compartments, which also adds to the confusion and difficulty of locating various items of equipment.

"Our Department has adopted a way that we feel will overcome this problem. In all our apparatus, it being of the cab type, we install in the cab a cabinet directory, listing the various pieces of equipment on the vehicle. The cabinets or compartments are numbered for identification purposes. In the event that a member of the Department not assigned to that particular piece of apparatus wishes to obtain any particular facility, he goes directly to the cab and finds out the location of the particular item, from the directory. It's a time-and-trouble-saver.

"I would also suggest that smaller communities and volunteer departments might in their specifications for new apparatus specify that compartments should be numbered and a tool and appliance inventory directory container be placed in each cab."

#### LESSON IN QUICK-SAND RESCUE WORK

Quick-sand is a hazard found in many different localities in our County. The knowledge of how to handle the situation may be the difference between life and death for any local Fire Officer called upon to rescue an individual.

Early in 1954 the need for quick work on the part of a Fire Department to save a well digger from death, when in to his waist in quick-sand, became necessary. The man hung onto a cable hanging from a windlass at the top of the hole, but workmen trying to pull him free had to give up. The quick-sand's grip was too powerful, and they feared the well digger's body would be torn in two if more force from that direction was used.

The local Fire Chief arrived with a pumper. He immediately lowered a hose down to the well digger and told him to shove the nozzle into the quick-sand and hang on. The water was turned on full blast, said to have been about 200 pounds pressure. The quick-sand churned. In about a minute, men at the top of the hole were able to pull the man free.

Remembering such experiences as this one might again be put to use in some part of our County, and we hope save another life.

#### ASHVILLE FIREMEN PLAN BENEFIT

Chief Bowen advises that his Department is planning a benefit party for Fireman Vance Butts who was critically injured last May 6th in an automobile accident on Route 20. Fireman Butts has suffered amputation of one leg to date, and his condition is very serious at Jamestown General Hospital. Since no fire activity was involved, no compensation is forthcoming, and Chief Bowen requests your support of the benefit.

Your Citizens Will Appreciate a Well Equipped Fire Department

### A LOOK AT OUR RADIO LOGS

Few members of the Fire Service have had an opportunity to examine the radio log used by the Control Center dispatchers. Since it is essential that all of us be familiar with these logs, we are enclosing a blank copy for your information. All data appearing on the log sheet is required by the Federal Communications Commission, and each log is kept on file at the Control Center for at least one year.

It should be noted that one of the required entries is the "Mobile Operator's Name". This, the dispatchers tell us, is the most difficult information to obtain because most Officers and firemen neglect to identify themselves at the beginning of a series of transmissions or messages. Usually the dispatcher on duty has to use valuable air time by asking, "Who is the operator?"

On many occasions the radio logs have supplied pertinent facts to fire insurance interests, County Fire Officers and your Radio Technician. Also from the logs, the Communications Coordinator compiles his monthly and annual alarm reports, copies of which are forwarded to the State Bureau of Fire for statistical study.

### NEVER LET IT BE SAID

Erie County - On June 7th the Buffalo Courier Express carried this front page article:

"Illegal use of a new Erie County mobile radio transmitter has been assailed in a strongly worded letter to all volunteer firemen in the county, it was disclosed yesterday.

"The letter, dated last Friday, was signed by Harold R. Becker, county fire coordinator, who said he had requested an investigation of the incident by federal authorities.

"In the letter, Becker said an unidentified person broadcast 'filthy language' over the system from the vicinity of East Aurora on May 16 at 7:10 in the evening.

"He said the person was unfit to be a volunteer fireman and that he should be expelled from further fire service and prosecuted.

"The letter asked that the person who made the alleged broadcast report to Becker's office 'before he is apprehended by investigators'."

Chautauqua County - On June 21st at 8:41 P.M. a Fire Department mobile radio operator located in the Second Battalion was overheard using considerable profane language on the air. The Fire Service has "lived" with its fine radio network for about six years now, and this first instance of apparent indiscretion startles us a bit.

We trust that our communications system will not again be placed in jeopardy by infringement of F.C.C. rules and regulations.

### NEWS OF INTEREST

The Silver Creek Fire Department has placed in service a new 1,700 gallon tanker constructed on a Mack chassis. Two portable pumps will be carried on the rig; one semi-permanently mounted and one readily portable for filling the large tank. County Number of the unit is Tanker 15.

Fredonia Truck 11 now has a mobile radio: another Department completely equipped with radio.

Chief Samuelson of Gerry announces that all firemen and auxiliary units in uniform will be admitted free of charge to the Rodeo on Friday, August 1st.

Raymond H. Hughes  
County Coordinator

THE  
B O O S T E R  
LINE

Willis R. Wilson  
Chairman, Advisory Board

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#### IN SERVICE MAINTENANCE OF APPARATUS

The practice of "in service" maintenance of fire apparatus has long been recognized as a sound and effective way to obtain a maximum of dependability and hours of effective operation without shutdown. Such maintenance practice not only decreases the hours of "out of service" per year, but actual repair and replacement cost over a period of years is substantially reduced. This has been proven many times by Fire Departments who have established such a program in this County.

"In service" maintenance means checking, adjusting and correcting such items as may be handled in the fire station, when this maintenance will not require taking the apparatus out of service, nor affect its ability to respond to an alarm.

There must be an assignment of certain responsibilities if the system is to work effectively. There must be cooperation between the drivers and the mechanic, or Officer if no master mechanic is employed.

The driver(s) should be responsible for checking daily, or after each run, the following items: Radiator water level, motor oil level, oil in primer pump tank, batteries for charge condition and water level, tires for proper air pressure and for cuts or bruises, water or oil leaks observed while in operation, booster tank water level, and the amount of gasoline.

In most Departments it is also the responsibility of the driver to see that any partially or completely discharged extinguishers are re-charged, used gas mask cannisters replaced, and that all ladders or pike poles that have been used are inspected for any evidence of damage. The driver should always report the malfunctioning of the brake system, steering, ease of starting, lights, warning devices, windshield wipers, clutch, pump, and pressure control devices.

Firemen assigned as drivers, or pump operators, are fully capable and qualified to carry out the duties described here. It is a matter of departmental administration to have these duties clarified if the maintenance program is to be effective. This applies equally to volunteer and paid departments. Posting such a list of maintenance duties in each fire station will serve as a reminder to those who operate the apparatus. Remember, "in service" maintenance pays.

#### A WORD OF THANKS TO ALL

The radio test procedure which began last May 3rd has proven very successful from the point of view of saving time yet adequately testing all radio facilities. All Departments have cooperated fully, and although there have been a few "rough" spots when we forgot about the test or our receiver just wouldn't work, we are really proud of the results.

Dick Lovejoy has cultivated a "Motorola ulcer" from the problems that occur in the selective calling system, namely; over one hundred service calls, replacement of 128 tubes, and making many adjustments. However, the kinks are straightening out and we thank you for being so patient. Already the system has proven itself and helped save property.

#### COUNTY FIRE SERVICE GETS PUBLICITY

Early this year the Sarasota, Florida News carried a two column, front page article about the success of Mutual Aid in Chautauqua County. Many Departments were mentioned by name including our Warren County brothers who so often lend us a hand. Maybe we've started something!

#### CHIEF TOWNSEND LEAVES STATE FIRE BUREAU

Chief B. Richter Townsend who for six years has headed the State Bureau of Fire Mobilization and Control at Albany resigned from this post to accept an equally important position as general manager of the International Association of Fire Chiefs. The Chief will assume his new duties this month prior to the International convention at Omaha, Nebraska on September 19th.

"Rick" Townsend earned nation-wide recognition in his organization and direction of our State fire training and mutual aid programs. Today New York citizens enjoy the finest and best organized Fire Service in the world, and no other state has so fine a blueprint for concerted action in the event of natural or man-made disaster.

We lose a great man whose friendship we have always cherished and honored. A true fireman from the start, Chief Townsend will forever be remembered by the Chautauqua County Fire Service for his deep interest and guidance in our many problems. We hope you will think of us often, "Rick", and from all of us best wishes and congratulations!

#### SHADES OF "FLAMING DEATH"

The week of July 17-23 makes us wonder if history doesn't repeat itself along the Pennsylvania Railroad between Summerdale and Brocton. We refer to the story "Race with Flaming Death" which we enclosed with the March 1st issue of this paper; the only difference being steam instead of diesel locomotives were the source of ignition.

During the week thirty odd grass fires threatening woods and farm lands did considerable damage to railroad property and kept hundreds of firemen busy for long hours. The State Conservation Department went all out with assistance, and even called in their locomotive inspector from Albany. We thank Rangers Button and Hodges for their untiring cooperation, and we appreciate the use of Sheriff McCloskey's facilities, all of which greatly aided in bringing the fires under control.

#### NEW FIRE FILMS AVAILABLE

The Federation of Mutual Fire Insurance Companies in Chicago, Illinois, is offering a film on how to teach fire safety to children, on a free-loan basis to fire departments. Entitled "Too Young to Burn," the film has a running time of 27 minutes, sound, full color, and is of 16 mm size.

Encyclopaedia Britannica Films, Inc. has announced the release of a new educational film "The Fireman." This 16 mm film documents a day in the life of a young fireman, and brings to the screen vividly the exciting and dangerous occupation of fighting fires. Also in color, the 11 minute motion picture describes modern training methods and practice sessions that keep fire fighters alert and always ready for any emergency.

#### GUIDES FOR FILL IN COMPANIES

We note that Chief Officers are neglecting to provide guides for "fill in" companies at their headquarters. This procedure is especially important in the cities of Dunkirk and Jamestown and at Chautauqua Institution where many streets or extra hazardous locations exist. A neighboring company will be of little value to you without direction.

TRAINING ACTIVITY REPORTED

Donald A. Sales, County Training Coordinator, has submitted a preliminary Fire School report covering the period April through August. The figures presented indicate a slight drop in attendance yet course registrations were more consistent over the previous year. It should be noted that one Advanced Course has been postponed and will be re-scheduled this Fall, otherwise the following table is complete:-

<u>COURSE</u>	<u>REGISTERED</u>	<u>GRADUATES</u>
Basic	104	86 or 83%
Intermediate	68	67 or 98%
Advanced	45	44 or 98%
Single Company Operations	66	48 or 73%

It is, perhaps, significant that Intermediate and Advanced attendance remained at 98% throughout indicating not only a desire to learn, but sincere interest. Again we thank all members of the Fire Service for their continued support of the training program.

HOSE POOL ESTABLISHED

In the July 1st issue we discussed the set up of reserve hose pools for the benefit of all Departments. The first such pool has been established at the Lakewood Fire Headquarters, and it will principally serve companies in the Third and Fourth Battalions. The location of a similar hose pool for First and Second Battalion companies is currently awaiting approval of the County Fire Chiefs Association.

Pool hose will be available on a 24 hour basis, the couplings will be painted a distinguishing color, and each Department borrowing hose is responsible for cleaning and drying it before returning it to the proper pool. Present available hose at Lakewood totals 900 feet, and donations of one or two lengths of 2½ inch hose will be appreciated. It is hoped that from 1,000 to 1,200 feet can be maintained at both of the pool locations, thus providing an average Engine company reload.

FIRE PREVENTION WEEK PLANNING

Now is the time to start planning for Fire Prevention Week which, this year, runs from October 9th through the 15th. Literature, posters, inspection blanks, etc. may be obtained at nominal cost from the National Fire Protection Association, 60 Batterymarch Street, Boston 10, Massachusetts. The deadline for ordering your materials is September 22nd, so don't delay and make this the best Prevention campaign ever.

If you wish assistance in planning your week, contact Chief Lloyd Johnson of Frewsburg or Chief Fletcher R. Ward of Bemus Point.

NEWS HIGHLIGHTS

Latest count shows that 93 mobile radios are operating in the County Fire Service Radio Communication System, and 32 selective call, station house receivers have been installed.

The Paul Dudgeon benefit fund reached a total of \$2,589.21 and was turned over to Paul the early part of August at W.C.A. Hospital.

Enclosed is an up to date apparatus inventory for your information. Please report any discrepancies to your Battalion or County Coordinator.

### THOUGHTS ON FIRE PREVENTION

Last year approximately 11,000 persons, more than half of them women and children, lost their lives in fires and the nation suffered a property damage loss of about a million dollars a day. Somewhere in the United States a dwelling fire occurs every minute and a half on the average. Once every 50 minutes some person is burned to death in a fire that could have been prevented.

These are the cold statistics we are fighting, with instruction, as well as with pumper and ladder. Fire Prevention Week offers everyone an opportunity to join in the war against fire!

To obtain maximum effectiveness the Fire Prevention Week program should be developed in such a way as to:

1. Reveal the cost of the fire waste, both local and national, in lives and dollars.
2. Educate the public in the fundamental causes of fire.
3. Show what each individual can do to reduce the danger of fire, and what the community as a whole can do to reduce its fire loss.
4. Provide as far as possible both the incentive and the opportunity for individual and community action.

In connection with this last item, it should be emphasized that agitation for a program which will result in a permanent improvement appropriate to local conditions is, perhaps, the most important part of Fire Prevention Week. Unless some lasting and definite plan is drawn up and initiated, fire prevention will soon be forgotten after Fire Prevention Week has passed. The most effective results from the overall community point of view are obtained by making Fire Prevention Week the starting point for a continuous program extending throughout the year.

### COUNTY TO HAVE DEFENSE TEST

A State directed Civil Defense test exercise has been scheduled for Chautauqua County on November 18 and 19, a Friday and Saturday. As is customary with the State Civil Defense Commission, General Huebner and his entire field staff will be present to witness various phases of the test. Practical as well as theoretical problems are being planned.

The County Fire Service will, of course, participate fully in the exercise, and detailed plans are now being prepared by your Coordinator in conjunction with the other services and C.D. Director Robert Tanner.

### NEWS AROUND THE COUNTY

The Falconer Village Board has approved funds for the purchase of a one and one quarter ton International chassis upon which will be constructed a new emergency rig replacing the 1940 Buick now in service.

Instructors Burr and Spute are planning to attend the Seventh Annual State Fire Instructors Conference at Buffalo beginning October 9th.

Silver Creek firemen have assumed the responsibility of maintaining ambulance service for their community and have acquired a former locally owned vehicle which will have County Number M-11. The Ford emergency truck has been donated to Forestville and is reassigned County No. M-14.

Much credit goes to the Ellery Center Fire Department, now planning the purchase of a new truck and making great strides under Chief Benson.

Definition of a Jitter Bug:- "A fireman having a wife, a girl friend, and a note at the bank, all a month overdue!"

Raymond H. Hughes  
County Fire Coordinator

THE  
C H A R G E D  
LINE

Willis R. Wilson  
Chairman, Advisory Board

Volume 63 $\frac{1}{2}$

Serving the Forty One  
Fire Departments of Chautauqua County

October 1, 1955

#### DEFENSE TEST DATE CHANGED

We regret, dear reader, to have misinformed you in the October 1st issue of The Booster Line by announcing that a State directed Civil Defense test exercise has been scheduled for Chautauqua County on November 18 and 19. The dates have been changed to October 7 and 8.

As frequently befalls the editor of a periodical, a reported time or event will suddenly change leaving said editor in a most embarrassing situation. Why even the world famous New York Times recently printed an article about a supposedly living European celebrity only to discover the next day that he had passed away two weeks before. But our only excuse is that we had already gone to press by the time we received notification from the State on the change in dates.

Be this as it may, we are now faced with a difficult problem only one week away which requires much planning work on the part of your County Fire Officers. Frequent meetings are being held between representatives of the State and local officials and between local C.D. Directors and the Fire Service to finally solve the problem as presented by the New York State Civil Defense Commission.

#### FIRE SERVICE PARTICIPATION

The Fire Service practical participation will take place on Friday, October 7th, and all Departments in the County will take part in some phase of the defense test. Problems to be worked out on paper at the Fire Control Center and at various Field Operational Headquarters will be handled after the actual demonstrations on Friday.

No advanced notice of the exact time or details of your participation will be issued. This is to be a true defense test, and in keeping with Fire Service tradition of always being ready, preliminary briefing is unnecessary. We do remind you, however, to exercise care at all times, drive the apparatus within reasonable speed limits and firemen responding must wear protective clothing (coats, boots and helmets).

#### THE PROBLEM PRESENTED

The problem as presented by the State Civil Defense Commission is as follows:

"On the evening of October 7 a jet bomber, nationality unknown, damaged in an air battle over the City of Buffalo is rapidly losing altitude and heading in the direction of the City of Jamestown. In order to lighten the load, a single atomic bomb is jettisoned northeast of the City of Jamestown. The plane then continues on its flight and crashes somewhere in the State of Pennsylvania.

"The size of the bomb is 8X (equivalent to 160,000 tons of TNT). It is identified as an air burst over the Marlin Rockwell ball bearing plant near the Village of Falconer.

"Weather conditions at the time of the explosion are a seasonal temperature with a northeast wind at 20 miles per hour".

No information is given as to the altitude of the burst, but we will assume an average complete devastation of one mile radius from "ground zero", the Marlin Rockwell plant. The Fire Service may not be able to approach the fire storm in some areas in less than two miles from ground zero.

Raymond H. Hughes  
County Coordinator

THE  
B O O S T E R  
LINE

Willis R. Wilson  
Chairman, Advisory Board

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Chautauqua County Fire Advisory Board

October 15, 1955

#### FIREFIGHTER STATISTICS ARE COMPILED

The average U.S. city of more than 10,000 population employs 1.31 firemen for every 1,000 inhabitants and pays them better than it used to. In 1954 the median annual entrance salary of firemen ranged from a high of \$3,950 in cities of more than 500,000 to \$3,300 for cities between 10,000 and 25,000. This compares with 1950 salaries of \$3,077 and \$2,496 in these population groups.

These statistics were compiled by the International City Managers' Association for the 1955 Municipal Year Book. They show that the average minimum and maximum salaries of firemen have risen in all U.S. cities of more than 10,000 population.

Firemen have worked an average of 72 hours a week in all cities of more than 10,000 population since 1947. Currently, the Association said, a fireman's work-week ranges from 60 hours in cities of more than 500,000 to 72 hours for cities from 10,000 to 25,000. A total of 87 cities cut the work-week last year.

#### STATE FIRE ADVISORY BOARD REMOVED

A Republican Assemblyman has accused Safety Director Michael H. Prendergast of "dictatorship, cheap politics and gross discourtesy" in notifying the 17 member Fire Advisory Board it had ceased to function. Assemblyman Charles A. Cusick of Cayuga County contended that Prendergast had no legal authority to fire State officers.

The unsalaried Board was appointed during the Republican administration of former Governor Dewey. On August 16th Prendergast sent letters to the members stating that the Board had ceased to function as of January 1, 1955 and asked that they return their credentials.

Prendergast, who is also Democratic State Chairman, said the letters were sent because Governor Harriman's Administration was in the process of choosing a new Board. The Governor has not announced the appointment of new members.

Cusick, vice chairman of the Joint Legislative Committee on Fire Laws, called the action an "opening wedge by the Harriman Administration to inject spoils politics" into the State's paid and volunteer fire system. He added that the move "leads to the inescapable conclusion that the Harriman Administration will attempt to throw the paid and volunteer fire service into politics and make it an arm of his political machine."

Jamestown's former Fire Chief, Rudolph H. Swanson, was Chairman of the State Fire Advisory Board having been appointed in January 1949.

#### DID YOU KNOW THAT

A recent court case has pointed out the liability of individual members of an unincorporated firemen's organization.

Under the laws of the State of New York an unincorporated association has been construed to be an organization composed of a body of persons united without a charter for the prosecution of some common enterprise. It is not a legal entity separate from the persons who compose it and the liability in any suit against such an organization is that of the individual members as individuals.

All fire companies or departments should incorporate under the Membership Corporations Law. There are still two local Departments that are unincorporated and assuming the risk of individual's liability.



#### TO STUDY FIRST AID TRAINING

Officers and firemen from several Departments have asked the Advisory Board to study the feasibility of establishing a countywide First Aid training program. To survey the matter a committee, headed by Jack Washington of Cassadaga, has been appointed to meet with the local Red Cross chapters, qualified First Aid Instructors and representatives of the County Fire Service.

At the committee's initial meeting, it was disclosed that approximately half of the Departments in the County have sponsored First Aid training classes for their membership. Most of these classes, however, were held several years ago, thus indicating the need for both new and refresher courses at this time.

The committee's study also revealed that the regular Red Cross First Aid course may be readily adapted to meet the needs of the Fire Service with specific emphasis placed upon the more common aspects of emergency treatments encountered by firemen. The Standard Course of 18 hours was adjudged to be most desirable, but firemen wishing to learn the subject in more detail could enroll in the 12 hour Advanced Course.

Your opinions and suggestions are solicited by the Advisory Board and your Coordinators. Please do help us decide this important issue.

#### DISPATCHER ENLISTS IN ARMY

Albert. L. Wilson, volunteer dispatcher at the Control Center, has enlisted in the U.S. Army and will leave the first part of this month for induction. We will always remember "Bud" Wilson for his expert handling of many Tuesday night radio tests and for his patience with us when we forgot or fouled up in procedure.

Bud Wilson's interest in the Fire Service Radio Communications System is unparalleled, and we sincerely regret that he has to leave us. The very best wishes to you, Bud, and thanks for helping us so much so often. Write us when you can and we will reciprocate on frequency!

#### STATION HOUSE RECEIVER MAINTENANCE

The selective call, station house receivers are an important part of your fire alarm system and frequent checking is recommended for utmost dependability.

The position of the squelch control knob which regulates the "rushing" noise should be noted, if it is necessary to turn the knob more than 45 degrees from its original threshold setting to silence this noise, you should notify our radio technician. Also the quality of the squelch noise should be noted, and if it does not have a high pitched rushing sound an immediate report must be made to the Control Center or Dick Lovejoy.

At least once each week it is recommended that the 110 volt line plug (power supply cord) be disconnected five or six times. This will allow the 110 volt AC to 6 volt DC change-over relays to operate. Since these relays are designed to work with a wiping action to clean the contact points and prevent corrosion, such action will insure dependable automatic switching in the event of a power failure.

Our technician, Dick Lovejoy, lives at 21 Euclid Avenue, Jamestown, N.Y., and his telephone number is Jamestown 90-366.

Please Post Me Near Your Station House Receiver

#### GREATER SAFETY WITH SAFETY BELTS

In an attempt to do something about the terrible loss of life involved in the process of responding to a fire, the Chicago Fire Department is installing safety belts on all of its cars and trucks to curb injuries and death among firemen.

Fourteen hundred of these safety devices are to be installed in the Chicago department's 275 cars, ambulances and fire trucks. Each Truck Company is to have three belts, for tillermen, driver and officer. It is hoped that some perfecting in the belt design can be achieved for those firemen riding the side of the Trucks.

In Chautauqua County we are fortunate in having an inventor and producer of safety belts. Fireman William J. Paulson of Maple Springs has developed the "Guardian-Angel" belt which is described in the enclosed literature. We trust you will give some thought to greater safety and consult with Fireman Paulson for installing belts in your own automobile and fire apparatus.

#### NOTED BY OUR REPORTERS

The East Dunkirk Fire Department is presently rebuilding a 1945 Dodge "Power Wagon" into a grass and brush fire truck. When complete the unit will have a 280 gallon booster tank, a portable pump and numerous appliances for grass fire control. County Number will be M-15.

Chief Norman Becker of Chautauqua now has a mobile radio installed in his personal car. When in need of a dark green Cadillac call Car 57.

Cassadaga firemen have purchased a 1946 Cadillac ambulance which they intend to convert into an emergency rig to carry miscellaneous equipment such as a resuscitator, first aid items and small fire fighting tools. County Number of this new unit will be M-16.

Several Departments recently took advantage of the offer of Federal matching funds and have deposited sufficient monies with the County Treasurer to purchase fourteen additional mobile radios and six walkie-talkie units. Approximately \$5,400 has been collected.

#### FIRE ALARM SYSTEM SAID CANADA'S FIRST

From the Quarterly Bulletin published by the Fire Marshall's Office of the Province of Ontario, Canada, we reprint the following story:

"An excited Waterloo county farmer will shout 'fire' into a rural telephone sometime next month and most of the world's firemen will be listening. What they hear will be possible because of a county mutual fire aid project nearing completion this week in Kitchener and five other communities. The project is a two-way radio system linking the centres with a control headquarters at the Kitchener fire department. A sparkplug behind this new idea in better fire protection, Chief Putnam of Kitchener said that the heart of the aid plan is radio communications. 'There is nothing better,' he said. 'It is so instantaneous.'

"Chief Putnam has been appointed by the province as county fire co-ordinator for Waterloo. Orders-in-council have been passed permitting the free exchange of fire fighting equipment among the participating communities. Two-way radios have been set up in every fire truck and each department has a radio-activated signal controlled by push button from the Kitchener control centre."

We are proud to know that more and more counties are adopting our now famous, tried and proven Mutual Aid Plan of the State of New York.

### "SPELLING OUT" FIREGROUND COMMAND

Command functions at major fires in many ways resemble the command functions in military operations. Many important details must be taken care of almost simultaneously, and it is necessary to have definite procedures spelled out to see that nothing important is overlooked in the rush and excitement of an emergency operation.

On the fireground there are always enough new and special problems to fully occupy the attention of commanding officers. Good organization will assure the completion of those important "routine" tasks which are essential for success.

Various Departments have their own fireground procedures worked out to meet local conditions and average fires, but few have prepared plans for major emergencies that usually require Mutual Aid. We need to give more thought to providing a command position, or command car, not only for handling communications with your fire headquarters and the Control Center, but to provide special information, records and plans which may be needed at any large scale fireground operation.

Detailed pre-planning of fire attack for all major buildings in your area is important, and all special plans should be carried in written form on all apparatus. When aid is needed, be specific in your request to the Control Center, and have a guide or junior officer direct incoming companies. The Chief Officer in command must always stay near his command post except to make brief surveys of the fire area; your white coat is meant to be seen, not to be gotten dirty working inside.

### WE'RE STILL HOWLING

Last February we cautioned you about transmitting from a mobile unit within hearing range of a station house receiver and causing a "feed back" or high pitched howl. You need but listen to a Tuesday night radio test to realize how much howling is going on, particularly now that the weather is cooler and we don't like to get our trucks chilled (they might catch cold).

If you prefer to use your radio indoors, then please shut off the speaker on your station house receiver while testing. This is done by placing the toggle switch located on the front control panel in the off position until the test is completed; such a position of the switch will not interfere with the alarm system test as the switch controls the speaker only. Another way to overcome the howl is to turn the volume control knob down, but not off, on the station house receiver.

### HOLIDAY PRECAUTIONS ESSENTIAL TO SAFETY

The Christmas tree and holiday decorations are, according to the National Board of Fire Underwriters, potential fire hazards and caution should be taken in their selection, placement in the home, and maintenance. In selecting a Christmas tree, choose a small one, and keep it outdoors until a few days before setting it up. During that time occasionally throw water over it to keep it moist and fresh.

When you bring the tree inside, cut the butt slantwise to open the pores, then stand it in a tub of water. Be wary of chemicals or other substances sold for "fire-proofing" trees.

Never use untreated paper ornaments or untreated cotton batting or gauze for decoration, and use only electric lights, never candles.

Let's be sure and have a safe holiday season throughout the County!

Raymond H. Hughes  
County Coordinator

THE  
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Willis R. Wilson  
Chairman, Advisory Board

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#### FIREMANIC NEWS AND CHATTER

The County Training Coordinator has announced that Radio Procedure Schools will be available again to all Fire Departments immediately after the first of the year. Chief Officers wishing to have classes at their own headquarters are requested to contact Donald A. Sales for assignment of a date and time. Each course requires three hours time and attendance should be limited to fifteen firemen.

The Lakewood Hose Pool continues to grow with recent donations of 100 feet of 2½ inch hose from Fluvanna and a like amount from Lakewood. Your contribution of one or two lengths of hose will be appreciated; remember it's for the good of all Departments in the County. The north end pool will be established shortly and donations are badly needed.

Fire Police training usually scheduled for late Fall has been postponed until March or April. Similar training will be offered next year with some advanced subjects at two convenient locations.

Plans for the microwave relay radio station have been altered, and it is now deemed advisable to install the 60 watt transmitter on or near State owned lands along the Gerry-Ellington road. This decision is the result of lengthy study and experimentation by your technician and County Fire Officers. The Radio Specifications Committee of the Advisory Board has held frequent meetings preparatory to bidding the twelve thousand dollar system which will also give us auxiliary power.

#### REPLACEMENT OF FIRE APPARATUS

It is essential that every Fire Department have sufficient apparatus in service to protect the community properly, and that apparatus be of adequate capacity, in good condition and dependable. The problem often arises as to when apparatus should be replaced.

In general apparatus 15 to 20 years old should be considered for replacement. Municipal officials should institute a program that would allow for the purchase of new apparatus, as that in service reaches the age for replacement. Number of miles traveled and hours of pumping do not normally provide a basis for determining the need for replacement, but there are other factors which limit the effective and economical life making replacement desirable.

Important considerations are, obsolescence due to inadequate braking, slow pick-up and acceleration resulting in a tendency not to slow up at intersections, inadequate protection of driver and men, structurally weakened chassis due to overloading, and inability of pump to meet rated capacity. Some of the above features increase the danger to citizens and firemen due to increased chance of accidents. Furthermore, old apparatus becomes increasingly difficult or impossible to maintain.

Each community should have sufficient reserve apparatus readily available to permit replacement of apparatus out of service due to accident or overhauling. Smaller communities should have at least one reserve piece and large municipalities should provide reserve apparatus on the basis of one reserve rig for each eight in service. The utility value of replaced apparatus is usually much in excess of any resale or turn-in consideration; keep it in reserve!

The Advisory Board, Fire Coordinators and Firemen of Chautauqua County  
wish you a very

M E R R Y C H R I S T M A S