

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PORTLAND FIRE DEPARTMENT, 1934.

The Department responded to 1,292 alarms, classified as follows:

		Actual fires,	926
Stills transmitted,		No fire or needless,	195
as bells,	123	Emergency calls,	15
Bell alarms,	450	False alarms,	128
Stills,	719	Multiple alarms,	22
	1,292	Out-of-town calls,	6
			1,292

This is an increase of but three alarms as compared to the number of alarms for the year previous.

The fire loss for the year amounted to \$349,002.81, being one of the largest losses for several years.

Of this loss, \$311,607.95 or 89% of the total resulted from 45 fires, or 6.4% of the total number of fires extinguished by the Department. The balance of the fires extinguished by the Department, or 655, averaged less than \$60.00 loss per fire.

There were 45 fires with losses over \$1,000.00 per fire classified as follows:

\$1,000.00 to \$2,000.00	16
\$2,000.00 to \$5,000.00	13
\$5,000.00 to \$10,000.00	8
\$10,000.00 to \$20,000.00	4
Over \$20,000.00	4
	45

LOSS AND INSURANCE.

Value of buildings involved	\$5,121,555.04
Value of contents involved	421,797.67
	\$5,543,352.70
Total value of all property involved	\$3,170,581.99
Insurance on buildings involved	404,650.00
Insurance on contents involved	\$3,575,231.90
	Total insurance on all property involved

Loss on buildings	\$244,928.01
Loss on contents	104,074.80
	\$349,002.81

Loss on all property

Actual fires	926
Nothing used by the Department	226
Fires extinguished by the Department	700
Number of fires confined to origin	620 or 88.57%
Number of fires confined to floor of origin	38 or 5.43%
Number of fires confined to building	38 or 5.43%
Number of fires extending to adjacent property	4 or .57%
	700

METHOD OF EXTINGUISHMENT.

With chemicals or booster	539 or 77.00%
With chemicals and hydrant streams	69 or 9.85%
With hydrant streams	79 or 11.28%
With hydrant and engine streams	13 or 1.85%

Amount of hose laid, 251,320 feet.

Amount of hose wet, 228,370 feet.

Gallons of chemical used, 12,245 gallons.

Booster equipment in service, 107 hours.

Engines pumped, 131 hours.

Ladders set, 18,383 feet.

Salvage covers spread, 169.

Number of miles apparatus travelled, 5,744.8 miles.

Loss per capita, \$4.78.

Number fires per 1,000 population, 9.5.

Per cent of fires confined to place of origin, 99.4%.

Per cent of loss to total value of property involved, 6.25%.

NUMBER OF FIRES WITH LOSS OVER \$1,000.00.

1918	23	1927	27
1919	28	1928	34
1920	34	1929	37
1921	43	1930	34
1922	47	1931	34
1923	35	1932	43
1924	46	1933	39
1925	37	1934	45
1926	43		

FIRE PREVENTION ACTIVITIES.

Inspections for the prevention of fires were made by the various companies as follows:

Engine Co. No. 1,	1,981	Engine Co. No. 9,	359
Engine Co. No. 2,	705	Hose Co. No. 11,	443
Engine Co. No. 3,	568	Hose Co. No. 12,	69
Engine Co. No. 4,	2,737	Ladder Co. No. 3,	1,113
Engine Co. No. 5,	2,063	Ladder Co. No. 5,	748
Engine Co. No. 6,	284	Ladder Co. No. 6,	256
Engine Co. No. 8,	554		

A bureau of Fire Prevention under direct supervision of an officer should be established to handle this important work.

The City of Portland was again placed on the Honor Roll as a result of the Fire Prevention Activities carried on during the 1934 contest, sponsored by the National Fire Protective Association.

Portland was one of the first cities in the country to take advantage of the opportunities available under the C. W. A. project to remedy or remove fire hazards. For about three months nearly ninety men were employed at the expense of the Federal Government to inspect buildings for defective wiring, defective chimneys and hazardous conditions. As a result of this extensive campaign a marked improvement has been noted throughout the City.

TRAINING AND INSTRUCTION.

The usual training course at the drill school was conducted from May to September. The course was divided into three parts. The first part was devoted to class work; the second part to companies working as a unit; and the third part to companies working together, that is an engine company and a ladder company.

LOSSES AND INSURANCE FOR THE YEAR 1934.

Month.	Bells.	Stills.	LOSSES		INSURANCE	
			Buildings.	Contents.	Buildings.	Contents.
Jan.	62	33	\$ 82,372.67	\$ 38,356.19	\$ 324,300.00	\$ 83,200.00
Feb.	49	62	20,288.30	6,702.91	799,122.57	74,550.00
Mar.	52	49	14,490.34	2,438.02	123,765.00	24,850.00
Apr.	57	111	9,901.29	2,992.48	107,800.00	10,600.00
May	52	48	10,332.81	4,173.60	70,300.00	9,300.00
June	36	40	3,946.10	757.09	253,500.00	5,100.00
July	55	64	6,986.51	6,639.58	141,000.00	14,600.00
Aug.	39	58	5,955.31	1,125.24	322,700.00	30,650.00
Sept.	36	30	7,718.72	1,535.00	217,000.00	3,500.00
Oct.	38	58	36,307.90	26,576.06	283,600.00	112,200.00
Nov.	38	48	4,627.96	2,179.93	45,382.03	11,600.00
Dec.	59	118	42,000.10	10,598.70	464,112.39	24,500.00
			\$244,928.01	\$104,074.80	\$3,170,581.99	\$404,650.00

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF LOSS.

Year.	Alarms.	Loss.
1910	384	\$379,355.46
1911	569	200,221.91
1912	512	251,038.94
1913	524	117,584.07
1914	601	388,387.24
1915	717	313,840.40
1916	554	370,403.63
1917	576	260,137.43
1918	627	233,151.06
1919	586	285,696.17
1920	573	247,511.82
1921	644	440,360.33
1922	738	662,755.54
1923	789	222,463.30
1924	1,000	325,920.60
1925	991	447,692.02
1926	1,124	375,165.95
1927	946	345,038.02
1928	1,052	152,987.26
1929	1,261	594,626.02
1930	1,630	226,218.44
1931	1,570	229,340.57
1932	1,704	227,784.05
1933	1,289	176,494.84
1934	1,292	349,002.81

MANUAL FORCE OF THE DEPARTMENT.

Chief,	1	Lieutenants,	17
Deputy Chief,	1	Enginemen,	3
District Chief,	1	Mechanic,	1
Captains,	18	Privates,	77

In addition to the permanent members, there are seven call men in the City proper; ten paid volunteers at Peak's Island; and one man at Great Diamond Island, Long Island, and Cliff Island.

APPARATUS.

Necessary repairs were made as required. A sedan was transferred from the Police Department to the Fire Department and assigned to the Deputy Chief, replacing a Buick touring car.

APPARATUS IN SERVICE.

- 3 automobiles for chief officers.
- 1 motor pumper and hose combination (1,000 gallons).
- 2 motor pumpers and hose combinations (750 gallons each).
- 4 motor pumpers and hose combinations (1,000 gallons each), equipped with booster tank.
- 1 motor pumper and hose combination (350 gallons), equipped with 35-gallon chemical tank.
- 1 Ford-Barton pump with 270-gallon water tank (75 gallons).
- 4 motor hose and chemical combinations.
- 1 motor squad and chemical combinations.
- 3 motor ladder and chemical combinations.
- 1 85-foot aerial ladder truck, tractor drawn.
- 1 75-foot aerial ladder truck, tractor drawn, equipped with booster pump and tank.
- 1 fire boat (6,000-gallon capacity at 150 pounds).

- 2 chemical jumpers, hand drawn (60 gallons each).
- 1 hose wagon, hand drawn.
- 1 motor hose wagon, equipped with two turret pipes.
- 1 motor supply truck.
- 1 motor repair truck.
- 1 motor hydrant truck.
- 1 Ford roadster.

APPARATUS IN RESERVE.

- 1 self-propelled steamer.
- 1 tractor-drawn steamer.
- 1 single hose wagon.
- 2 double hose wagons.
- 6 double exercise and coal sleds.
- 1 single exercise and coal sled.
- 1 single hose pung.
- 4 double hose pungs.
- 1 double ladder truck.

HOUSES.

Minor repairs and paint jobs were done at the various stations. Central Station and Engine 3 Station were painted throughout.

The fire boat was changed from the berth on the easterly side of Portland Pier to a berth on the westerly side at the harbor end. An overhead walk was built from the present quarters to the new berth. This means a saving of several minutes in the response of the boat to alarms.

HOSE.

400 feet of 1½-inch hose was purchased for 44c per foot. 1,000 feet of 2½-inch hose was purchased for \$1.10 per foot and 800 feet for \$1.05 per foot.

During the year 2,850 feet of hose was condemned.

The supply of hose now in service is as follows:

First class, 2½-inch,	6,900 feet
Second class, 2½-inch,	26,550 feet
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	33,450 feet
First class, 3-inch,	None
Second class, 3-inch,	5,300 feet
Second class, 3½-inch,	150 feet
First class, 1½-inch,	1,400 feet
¾-inch water hose,	450 feet
¾-inch chemical hose,	3,000 feet
1-inch chemical hose,	1,000 feet

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

	Appropriation and Credits.	Expenditures.	Balance.	Overdraft.
Fire Department	\$224,493.02	\$225,452.64		\$959.62
Pensions	26,532.00	25,810.31	\$ 721.69	
Water and Hydrants ..	7,700.00	6,863.84	836.16	
			\$1,557.85	
Unexpended balance			\$598.23	

PENSIONS.

The following members of the Department were retired during the year:

Private Joseph L. Woodill,	June 16, 1934
Private John O. Russell,	June 16, 1934

DEATHS.

Two retired members of the Department died:

Callman Charles L. Pollistor,	March 18, 1934
Callman Harry T. Johnson,	December 7, 1934

RECOMMENDATIONS.

While I fully realize the present financial situation, yet I strongly urge the immediate adoption of two recommendations which have been made in former reports.

The first is the replacement of Ladder 3. This ladder truck, built on a commercial chassis, was placed in commission in 1919. It is unsafe, is not dependable, is expensive to keep in service, and it is impossible to procure parts for it. Several times last year it has been out of service on account of breakdowns. One time it required two days to make up the necessary parts.

In order to give proper protection to the people in this section of the City, in which are located several hospitals and apartment houses, it is imperative that a new ladder be purchased without further delay.

The second important recommendation is the establishment of a fire prevention bureau. The cost of putting this into effect would be the salary of one man, who would be assigned to supervise the fire inspection work. It is less expensive to prevent fires before they start than it is to extinguish them after they start. The small cost involved should be more than offset by a marked reduction in the fire loss.

Other recommendations, made in former years, are again submitted for your serious consideration.

The purchase of a 1,000-gallon pumper in order to transfer the 350-gallon pumper, now assigned to Engine 9, to Peak's Island.

The construction of a new station in the vicinity of Brighton and Stevens Avenues to accommodate an engine and a ladder company.

The placing in service of an emergency and lighting truck. The Fire Department is called upon for all kinds of emergency work, and at the present time we do not have the proper equipment.

The last recommendation is that the permanent force be increased by the addition of three men; that callmen respond only on multiple alarm fires; and the outside alarm signal be discontinued on all first alarms.

CONCLUSION.

In concluding this report, I desire to express my appreciation to the City Manager and the members of the City Council for the continued interest they have taken in the Department.

I am glad also to acknowledge the assistance I have received from the officers and members of the Police Department, the officials of the Water District and other Department Officials who have aided me in my work.

The work of the Kiwanis Club in supplying doughnuts and coffee to the members of the Department even under extreme weather conditions entitles them to our very great thanks.

The members of the Caldwell Post Fire Unit have proven to be a very valuable adjunct to the Fire Department, for which I am very grateful.

The officers and members of this Department have my hearty commendations for the loyal and unfailing support which they have given to me at all times. The faithful and efficient manner in which they have performed their many varied and at times hazardous duties is most gratifying.

Respectfully submitted,

OLIVER T. SANBORN,
Chief of Fire Department.

Fire Department

PORTLAND

Headquarters, Central Fire Station, 380 Congress

BOARD OF ENGINEERS

Oliver T. Sanborn, chief engineer; Albion H. Moulton, deputy chief; Wm. R. Read, district chief.

FIRE ALARM — 118 Federal. Alfred C. Stults, Daniel E. Ward, Carl W. Reynolds, Martin F. Dugan, operators; Frank E. Sargent, supt.; Fred W. Barnes, James A. Whidden, John R. Fraser, electricians; Harry J. Howarth, inspector.

ENGINE 1. — 380 Congress. Melville G. Frank, capt.; Frank W. Boothby, lieutenant; Harry H. Abbott, J. H. Markley, engineers; William E. Blake, Guy A. Young, Clarence S. Cressey, Charles A. Stokes, firemen.

ENGINE 2. — 134 Congress. Chas. F. Fee-ney, capt.; Edward A. Hodgdon, lieutenant; Ernest A. Fogg, Matthew J. Cady, Fred G. Ward, Freeman H. Blake, Thomas H. Markley, firemen.

ENGINE 3. — 178 Brackett. Joseph L. Blake, capt.; Michael J. Carleson, lieutenant; Floyd A. Chase, Loring S. Towle, Earl D. Foye, John H. Weimert, firemen.

ENGINE 4. — 157 Spring. Thomas S. Murdock, capt.; Harry W. Marr, lieutenant; James W. McCarrison, Carl A. Blfstrom, John W. Martin, Nelson H. Huff, Fred W. Walton, John J. Gallagher, Andrew J. Phillips, firemen.

ENGINE 5. — 380 Congress. Frank J. Mullins, capt.; Guy R. Purinton, lieutenant; Joseph L. Woodill, Lawrence H. Murray, Raymond E. Borstel, Robert H. Flaherty, James T. Murray, Joseph M. Green, firemen.

ENGINE 6. — 295 Park av. William F. Moulton, capt.; Elmer E. Freeman, lieutenant; John F. Fogg, Charles E. Ross, Kenneth Coolidge, James L. Beecher, Stanley D. Royles, firemen.

ENGINE 7 (Fire Boat). — 60 Portland pier. Thomas A. Burgess, lieutenant; Edwin H. Gaddas, engineer; William E. Sawyer, John J. Lyden, D. James Doyle, John E. Devine, jr., Joseph N. Fortier, firemen.

ENGINE 8. — 536 Deering av. Amos S. Knight, capt.; Clinton R. Sampson, lieutenant; Frank E. Banks, George C. Partridge, Wil-

lam W. Sanborn, William J. Lucas, jr.; John W. McNeil, Charles J. Meisner, James T. Rollinson, jr., firemen.

ENGINE 9. — 17 Arbor. George W. L. Stevens, capt.; George H. Hagen, lieutenant; John E. Megguler, Fred A. Alexander, Francis J. Gill, James W. B. Goodall, Daniel J. Carter, firemen.

CHEMICAL 1. — 380 Congress. Stephen A. Dow, capt.; Joseph P. Martell, Robert J. Walsh, Herbert H. Crandall, Chester R. MacAllister, firemen.

LADDER 1. — 380 Congress. Leslie R. MacVane, capt.; Alanson DeMott, lieutenant; John J. McGowan, Clifford H. Keating, John W. Mitchell, Enos R. Alden, firemen.

LADDER 3. — 163 Brackett. John H. Mullins, capt.; Ralph E. Moses, lieutenant; Timothy J. Powell, jr.; Jos. E. Smith, Patrick J. Bowen, Edward M. Hopkins, firemen.

LADDER 4. — 17 Arbor. Frederick C. Larsen, capt.; Clarence S. Lockhart, lieutenant; Fred L. Smith, Walter F. Horr, Fred L. McDaniels, Carl P. Johnson, firemen.

LADDER 5. — 380 Congress. Dwight F. Tinkham, capt.; Hans H. Brockman, lieutenant; George J. Foley, Grover C. Rottman, John P. Sullivan, John C. Murray, firemen.

LADDER 6. — 295 Park av. Thomas A. Mulhern, capt.; Maurice W. Skillin, lieutenant; George R. Stevens, Thomas F. Moran, George E. Ward, firemen.

HOSE 11. — 579 Ocean av. Joseph A. Cooper, capt.; Arthur E. Libby, lieutenant; Oscar F. Dodd, Harry A. Lucas, firemen.

HOSE 12. — Peaks Island. William S. Berry, capt.; James L. MacVane, lieutenant; Henry F. Greene, Abram H. Sterling, firemen.

UNATTACHED MEN. — Frank P. Carr, Henry G. Rowe, capt.; Arthur J. Murdock, lieutenant; Charles E. Skillin, Charles E. Griffin, firemen.