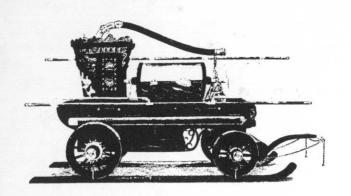
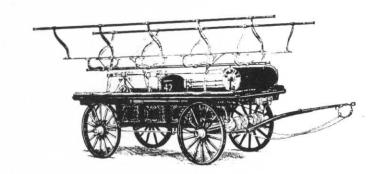
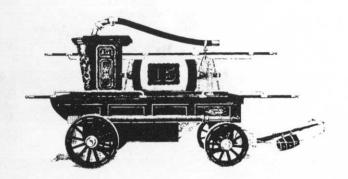


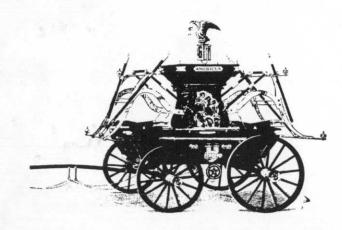
HISTORY 1859 — 1975

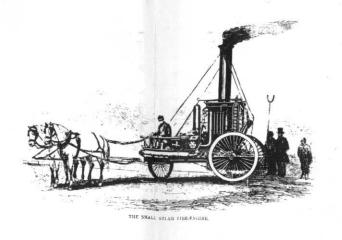
DR. E. CHRISTIAN BUEHLER

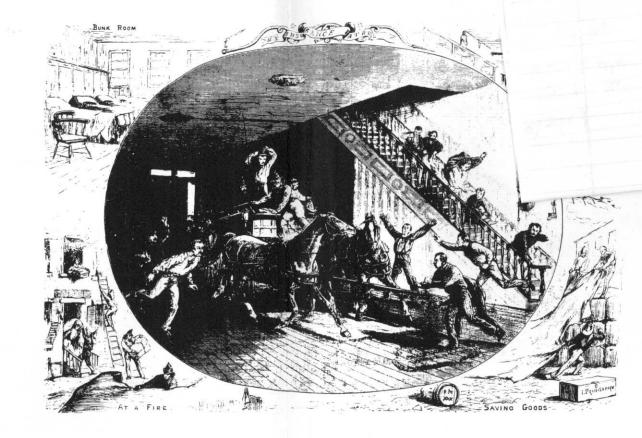


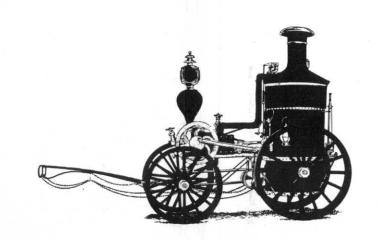


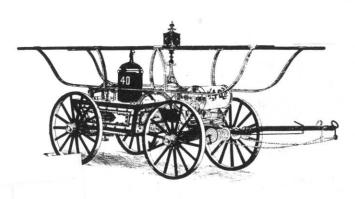


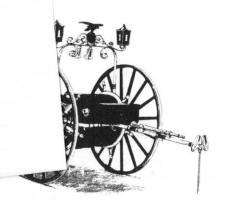




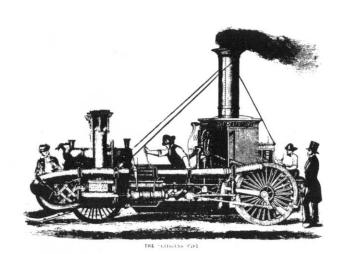












## LAWRENCE FIRE DEPARTMENT

## LAWRENCE KANSAS

1859 - 1976



Lawrence Fire Department History Book
Phil Leonard ...... History

APR 2 5 2000

LAWRENCE PUBLIC LIBRARY 707 VERMONT STREET LAWRENCE, KANSAS 66044

## **LAWRENCE**

**—** 1858 **—** 

The building of a town that would withstand one of the worst raids of plunder and slaughter in history. A town that would "RISE FROM ASHES" to become one of the leading cities in the State of Kansas.



Photo taken from Mt. Oread NOTE: The absence of streets

MAY 31, 1974



#### SHOPPING CENTER FIRE

Lawrence fighters using the Snorkel and three pumpers worked some 15 to 20 hours, shooting water into the flames engulfing Dillion's Foods and Calhoun's Clothing store at 1833 Mass. Street. Damage caused by the fire,

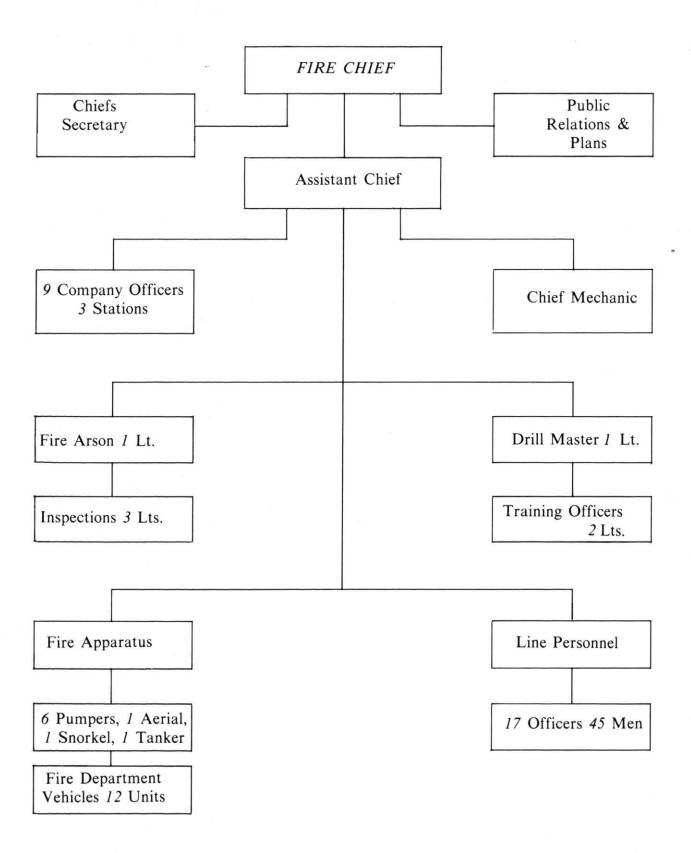
which broke out late May 30, 1974, was restricted to the food store and clothing store. Damage Estimates \$952,353.95 Cause Unknown.

## **DEDICATION**

This book is dedicated to the firefighters of long ago and the firefighters of today ... those firefighters who are looking death squarely in the eye at any given moment, and are still willing to stand between his fellow man and disaster ... The Men Of The Lawrence Fire Department.

Fire Department History Phil E. Leonard

## TODAY'S ORGANIZATION



### **PREFACE**

This book represents many hours, weeks and months of research and collation from a multitude of materials. It has been a great experience, and I hope that you will enjoy reading it and that it will meet your expectations

I knew that this book would be looked at and referred to from time to time, so I tried to put it together in such a manner that when opened each time it would stir great memories. I have tried to look at things from a firefighters point of view.

This book is not just about a fire-department, rather it is about the men of this department, the Lawrence Fire Department. I think you will find all aspects of our department covered here, the men, the buildings, and the machines

The book is done now, and it must succeed or fail on it's merits. I have tried and and hope I have succeeded I want to thank all the personnel for all the information, pictures, and materials, that I have received from them. This book would not have been possible without their help.

A special thanks to the Lawrence Fireman's Relief Association

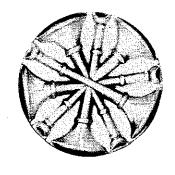
So here it is, the LAWRENCE FIRE DEPARTMENT.

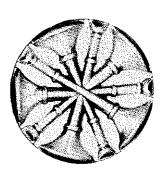
Phil Leonard History

#### A FIREMAN'S PRAYER

When I am called to duty, GOD; wherever flames may rage — give me strength to save some life, whatever be its age. Help me embrace a little child before it is too late, or save an older person from the horror of that fate. Enable me to be alert and hear the weakest shout, and quickly and efficiently put the fire out. I want to fill my calling and to give the best in me, to guard my every neighbor and protect his property. And if according to your will I have to lose my life, please bless with your protecting hands, my children and my wife.







#### CHIEFS OF THE LAWRENCE FIRE DEPARTMENT

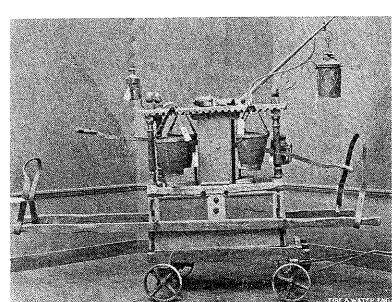
*A.J. SUTTON	1859 — 1862
*E.R. CHADWICK	1869 — 1870
*W. MC CURDY	1870 — 1871
*G BENNETT	1871 — 1875
*E. MANTER	1875 — 1889
*B.J. WHITMAN	1889 — 1894
*J.W. SHAW	1894 — 1901
*W. REINISCH	1901 — 1932
*E.J. HOLLAND	1932 — 1932
P. INGLES	1932 — 1952
*J. MILLER	1952 1960
F. SANDERS	1960 — 1973
J. KASBERGER	1973

\*(Deceased)

#### THE EVOLUTION OF THE FIRE ENGINE

There is an old familiar adage which says: "Every man to his trade." Yet, if the following-up of such instructions existed today, the world would be at a standstill and development in sciences, literature, art and mechanical ingenuthe inactivities of what are historically known as the Dark ing his dark nights pouring over devilish retorts from

and attention to the consideration of, we might say, the smaller things appertaining to the home, necessities which, in themselves, are as important adjuncts as wireless telegraphy, telephone and flying machines are to the world at large We refer in particular to that material factor in saving human lives and many thousands of dollars in property — the evolution of the fire engine. Holland may be looked upon as



Iwo Man Manual Engine of 1626

ity would remain in the dormant state which characterized Ages of Man. With the advancement of time, many advantages have resulted from modern discoveries fostered by researches, the result of delving into the realm of inventions and experiments. Modern wizards have given the world improvements and unthought of achievements of which our forefathers did not even dream. As the alchemist of poem and story was looked upon with horror for spendwhich seethed strange mixtures fraught with death, so the modern genius was viewed askance and brought to ridicule when he talked of sending messages through the air, building tunnels under the sea, conversing over thousands of miles of space and showing the marvels of electricity. Yet these men have convinced a skeptical world that their inventions, instead of being impossible myths, are indeed marvelous realities. The average citizen gives but little time

ation of hose, an entire change came about in the way of dealing with fires; it was the great marked invention of the seventeenth century. The interest evoked in Holland in the matter at the time was very great. The subject was constantly dealt with at the time on engravings and pictures, and also on monuments. Hence it was only natural that the British fire protection committee obtained this wonderful collection for exhibition at the international fire exposition in 1903.

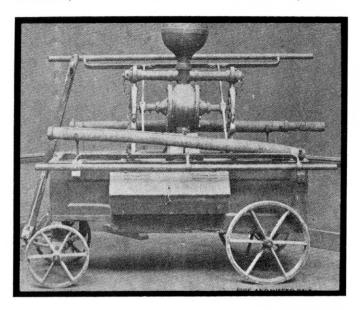
Provision for extinguishing a conflagration was made by the ancients who provided and used what are now known as fire buckets, while the Romans had leather water bags attached, from which streams were projected by pressing the bags Nero, of Alexandria, about 150 B.C, described "Syphon used in conflagrations," which was a double cylinder manual fire engine delivering an intermittent stream through a branch pipe carried by a swivel joint. Little further advance was made during the following eighteen hundred years, but in 1670 Van der Heyde introduced the use of leather hose for the suction and delivery pipes; air vessels to give continuous streams were added at the same

time. In England, till early in the eighteenth century, the only form of fire engine was the fire squirt, which held three or four quarts of water. In 1730, however, Richard Newsham, of London, introduced the typical parish fire engine, and the first engine in America was also of his make. The steam fire engine was invented by Braithwaite in 1829, and was first used on a fire at the Argyle rooms in London in the following year. The general adoption of such engines only commenced in 1860, at which period also the floating engines on the Thames were introduced

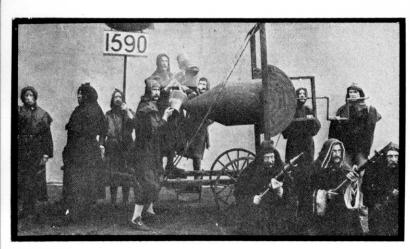
the original home of the fire engine, inasmuch as it was here that the great inventor, Van der Heyede, developed the first squirt to take the form of the manual or fire engine as we know it today It was there, too, that the same great inventor in 1670 created what is generally termed as fire hose by simply sewing together canvas strips so as to form tubes, a great invention in his day Afterward he similarly sewed together strips of leather. With the cre-

#### ANCIENT FIRE FIGHTING MACHINES

An illustration is shown here of the fire engine which Richard Newsham invented in 1721 in London. The apparatus has two single-acting pump barrels 4½ inches in diameter, with an 8½ inch stroke and a tall air vessel to secure a continuous discharge. The pumps are placed in the tank, which forms the frame of the machine, and the



Old Engine Of The Year 1721



Fire Squirt or Syringe Used In England Up To Early in the Eighteenth Century

water to be pumped was brought in buckets and emptied into the tank. The suction inlet to the pumps is provided with a 2-way cock, by which the pumps can be arranged to draw either from the tank or a length of suction hose. Leather hose was patented in 1676, and Newsham used it by connecting his suction hose at the base and the delivery at the top of the casing enclosing the air vessel. The pumps were worked by men at the cross handles, but in addition, there were two treadle-boards upon which several more men stood and assisted the pumping by throwing their weight on the descending treadle. These engines were generally adopted as shown by the following quotation from the English paper: "R. Newsham, of Cloth Fair, London, engineer, makes the most useful, substantial and conventient engines for quenching fires, which carries continual streams with great force. He hath played several of them before His Majesty, King George I., and the nobility at St. James with so general an approbation that the largest was at the same time ordered for the use of that royal palace." It was remarked of Newsham by a writer in the London Magazine of 1755, that in his engines he "gave a nobler present to his country than if he had added provinces to Great Britain." Newsham subsequently received orders for his machines from all parts of the world.

The first steam fire engine made in England was the production of John Braitwait and John Ericsson in 1829. It consisted of a boiler and two direct-acting steam pumps mounted on wheels and drawn by horses. It weighed 5,000 pounds complete. The pumping apparatus was horizontal with steam cylinders 7 inches in diameter, and two pumps 61/2 inches in diameter. They made from 35 to 45 strokes per minute. The quantity of water thrown was from thirty to forty tons per hour to a height of 90 feet through a 11/4 inch hose nozzle. It was not, however, until 1852 that steam engines were adopted permanently in London. In 1840, P.R. Hodge, of New York, made what is said to have been the first steam fire-engine produced in America. It resembled a 4-wheeled wagon and was self-propelled. The boiler was of the locomotive type, with a Bury's firebox, and there were two outside cylinders 91/2 inches in diameter, and 14-inch stroke, actuating the drive wheels.

When the fire was reached, one end of the engine was raised until the driving wheels were off the ground where they acted as fly-wheels. The pumps were placed tandem with the cylinders, and were directly driven by the piston rods produced backward. The delivery of water took place through from one to four jets, and the quantity of water thrown is stated to have been 290 tons per hour, to a height of 166 feet when using a 2¾ inch nozzle, and drawing from a depth of 12 feet.

# 1859 THE ORGANIZATION OF REPUBLIC ENGINE COMPANY #1

With the chartering of the city, the very first thing in the new city ordinance was the call for an organized Volunteer Fire Department. The population now was nearing 1,000 and growing rapidly because of the Free State policy. Many people were building homes and businesses. Until the purchase of equipment and organization of a company, fire fighting consisted of no more than everyone grabbing a bucket and running for the nearest water, most usually the river. So just prior to the organization of the company, the city of Lawrence purchased, in the winter of 1858, the first Fire Department equipment. It was a steam engine called the "WASHINGTON" and a Hose Cart called the "LADY OF THE LAKE" from the city of St. Louis, Missouri. The "Washington" was made by John Kern of St. Louis. It was very heavy, weighing over 5,000 pounds, and required a minimum of three horses to pull it. After six months the city of Lawrence sent the steam engine "Washington" back to the city of St. Louis because it was too heavy for use on sand streets and required too much maintenance

The "Lady of the Lake" Hose Carriage, originally purchased in 1850 by the City of St. Louis, Missouri, was a very fine four wheeled carriage, with two silver bells mounted in the front and a lantern on each corner of the carriage frame.

The "Lady of the Lake" Hose Carriage was also sold back to St. Louis, Missouri, along with the "Washington". (Note: The Lady of the Lake now stands in the museum of the Veteran Volunteer Fireman's Historical Society, St. Louis Missouri). The "Washington" was broken-up for scrap iron and kindling wood.

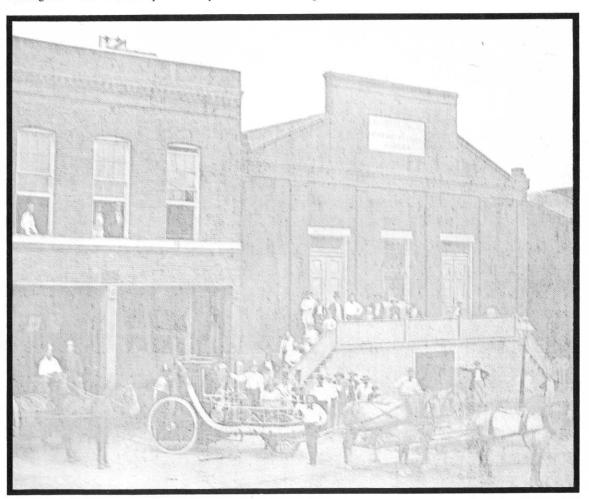


Photo courtesy Missouri Historical Society.

#### THE REPUBLIC ENGINE COMPANY #1

#### DISBANDS

THREAT OF RAIDS — With the war going and Kansas always under the threat of raids from Missouri, the Fire Department was always kept very busy. Without pay, other than pride and self-satisfaction, the men were under a great handicap.

Lawrence did not have paved or even wood-block streets. The Steam Engine "Washington", that was purchased in 1859, would only sink into the somewhat hardpan type sand streets. Shortly after buying the Steam Engine it was sent back to the City of St. Louis, Missouri, as it could not be used by the Fire Department.

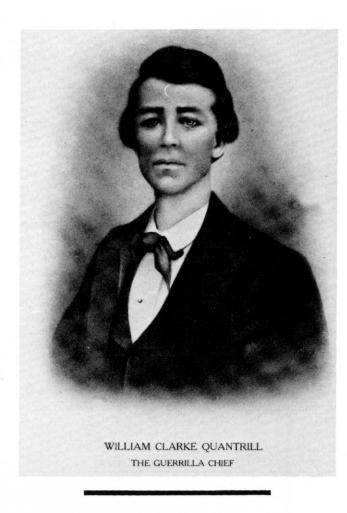
BACK TO BUCKETS — The Republic Engine Company once again reverted back to the use of buckets. The Hose cart "Lady of the Lake", was of no value without the steam engine "Washington" to supply the water suction and power, so the City also sold the Hose Cart back to St. Louis.

Lawrence purchased another steamer around January 1860, but it was old and worn out when the City purchased it. Now without a Hose Cart for extra hose, it did very little towards a respectable showing of proper fire-fighting equipment.

EQUIPMENT FALLS APART — By early 1862, all the equipment the company had was falling apart faster than the men could patch it together. After many pleas to the City Council for more and better equipment, the answer was "no". Their pleas just fell upon deaf ears. The City Council's only comment was: "due to the City being small we do not have the money to update or maintain the equipment". This was very true because of the war.

CAN'T PAY TAXES — A lot of families could not pay any amount of taxes. Most men were leaving Lawrence, in pursuit of one side or the other. It was all most men could do to keep their house and business going, let alone worry about a broken-down steam engine. In July 1862, the Republic Engine Company # 1 disbanded. They placed what little equipment left of value into the Livery Stable on Massachussetts Street.

#### WILLIAM CLARK QUANTRILL



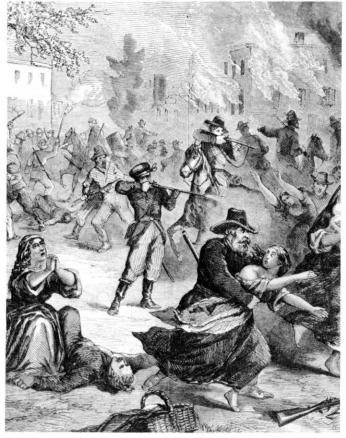
WILLIAM CLARK QUANTRILL — Quantrill was born in Ohio on July 31, 1837. He became known as one of most fearsome Guerrilla leaders and mass murderers of his day. Not only did he destroy Lawrence, Kansas, but many other towns as well. He was eventually killed in Kentucky a few years later.



"QUANTRILL'S RAID" By Sherman Enderton photo courtesy Kansas State Historical Society.



"QUANTRILL'S RAID" By Mrs. L.L. Fox-Fisk — photo courtesy Kansas State Historical Society.



"QUANTRILL'S RAID" By Leslies Illustrated — photo courtesy Kansas State Historical Society.

WILLIAM CLARK QUANTRILL — Quantrill began an unsensational life in the town of Canal Dover, Ohio, on July 31, 1837. As a young boy he was considered a loner, having few friends, and never any close friends. His dream was to become very rich and have everyone know who he was. His father was a school teacher, and like his father he also became a school teacher at the age of 16. Even by the standards of that time, it was considered quite a task. soon after he started teaching school, a group of local citizens decided to move to Kansas to homestead.

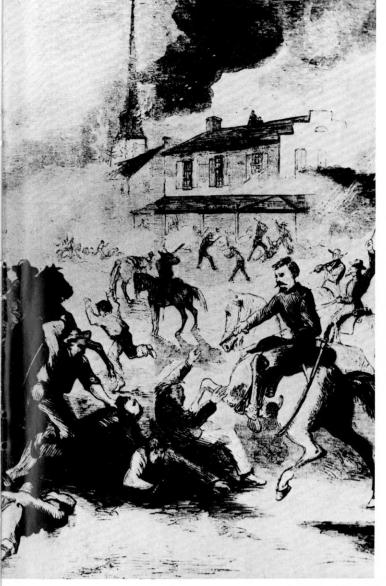
QUANTRILL LEAVES OHIO — Quantrill, being broke, persuaded them to let him come along. He promised to repay them for the expenses incurred during the trip as soon as he had his first crop harvested. The group of homesteaders from Ohio settled outside a town called Stanton. Quantrill even persuaded a family by the name of Terrill to loan him enough money to buy a small acreage of ground to farm. After trying to farm for awhile, he quickly saw there was no money or fame in farming, so he moved to Mendota, Illinois. There he again taught school and worked in a lumber yard as a clerk.

QUANTRILL KILLS HIS FIRST MAN — It was there Quantrill had his first run-in with the law. He was caught stealing from the lumber yard and killed a man in his attempt to escape. He then went to Fort Wayne, Indiana, and again taught school. It was not long before the word of his escape from Illinois forced him to move on. Quantrill then joined a calvary troop as a guide and messenger. The calvary troop was on it's way to Utah to help settle the Mormon's. Upon arrival in Utah he had to settle for a job being a cook because the Mormon's would not let him teach school. He left there and tried his hand at the gold fields in Colorado, which was also unsuccessful, so he decided to steal gold instead of panning for it. This made his departure from Colorado imminent.

QUANTRILL MOVES TO LAWRENCE — Quantrill came to Lawrence in 1860, using the name Charles Hart. Only a few people knew his real name, such as Nathan Stone, who ran the Whitney House and was a friend with Quantrill when he lived in Stanton.

"CHARLES HART" — He never engaged in a regular occupation in Lawrence, but spent all his time loitering about the North Ferry Landing. There he become friendly with a bunch of "Border Ruffians" known as the "Jayhawkers". These particular "Jayhawkers" would do most anything for money. They made many trips into Missouri along the border to plunder and burn small towns. While there they would kidnap slaves, hold them for awhile, and then sell them back to the Missourians. "Charles Hart" convinced the "Jayhawkers" he should be the one to make the contacts in Missouri for the selling of slaves. In doing so he became very popular in the towns along the border, so popular in fact the people from Missouri believed every thing Quantrill would tell them. To gain more popularity Quantrill would set ambushes for his fellow friends, the "Jayhawkers". Quantrill became quite a master at playing both sides.





QUANTRILL SETS AMBUSH — On one such ambush he had set up for a band of six "Jayhawkers", three escaped on foot as their horses were shot. They tried to make their way back to Lawrence, but a negro slave saw them and reported their position to Quantrill. He immediately went after them, but when he reached them he found only two. He promptly shot them after he had staked them to a tree. The third man hid in the bushes until Quantrill left and then he made his way back to Lawrence. Upon his return to Lawrence the man told the sheriff of the ambush. The sheriff issued a warrant for the capture of "Charles Hart" for murder, arson and stealing.

QUANTRILL ESCAPES — Upon the return of "Charles Hart" to Lawrence, he was confronted by the sheriff and taken to jail. Later he made good his escape with the help of a friend who ran the blacksmith shop. The blacksmith hid him from the sheriff.

Quantrill returned to Blue Springs, Missouri, dropped the name "Charles Hart," and again become known as Quantrill. It was not long before Quantrill had gained the confidence of many young Missourians. With his small band he began to raid small Kansas border towns. As his band grew in number he gained more popularity. It was not long

before he had under his control the largest band of guerrillas on the Missouri Border.

QUANTRILL RETURNS TO LAWRENCE — Quantrill boasted many times about coming to Lawrence to completely destroy the town. Most Historians disagree on just why he wanted to destroy Lawrence, but it was known as the "hot-bed" of the abolitionism in Kansas. On the 17th of August, 1863, he assembled his Captains and disclosed his plan to raid Lawrence.

THE RENDEZVOUS — The rendezvous for his band of guerrillas was to be on the Black River, in Johnson County, Missouri, at the farm of Captain Pardee. On the night of the 18th of August, every Captain arrived there with his command.

QUANTRILL LEAVES FOR LAWRENCE — On the 19th the march to Lawrence began. Great caution was observed and extensive scouting was done to detect any Federal Forces. After riding 10 miles towards Kansas Quantrill stopped to address his troops numbering 294. At this point he told them where they were going and how it was going to be accomplished. Before it was dark the guerrillas were again moving. South of the Little Blue they came upon Colonel John D. Holt with 104 men, and they joined the expedition. At 7 O'Clock on the morning of the 20th the band was at the head of the Grand River, four miles from the Kansas Border. Here 50 more men joined, bringing the total to 448. At 3 O'Clock on the afternoon of the 20th Quantrill, moved toward the State Line from a dense wooded area. They crossed the State Line at the South Corner of Johnson county, near Aubry, which was one of General Ewing's Posts of Federal Forces Commanded by J.A. Pike. Pike had about 100 men with him. Here began that strange list of unknowing circumstances which so much aided Quantrill's men during the raid. Passing Aubry, the guerillas dismounted and allowed their horses to graze an hour. Resuming the ride they passed through Spring Hill and then to Gardner, which they reached at 11

GUIDES NEEDED — It was necessary to have guides, for which service the local farmers were impressed. When they no longer knew the roads they were shot. Ten guides were killed in a stretch of eight miles. One mile from Hesper, a Captain for Quantrill found a man named Stone and a young German boy. They killed Stone by knocking his head off and promised to do the same to the boy if he did not guide them to Lawrence.

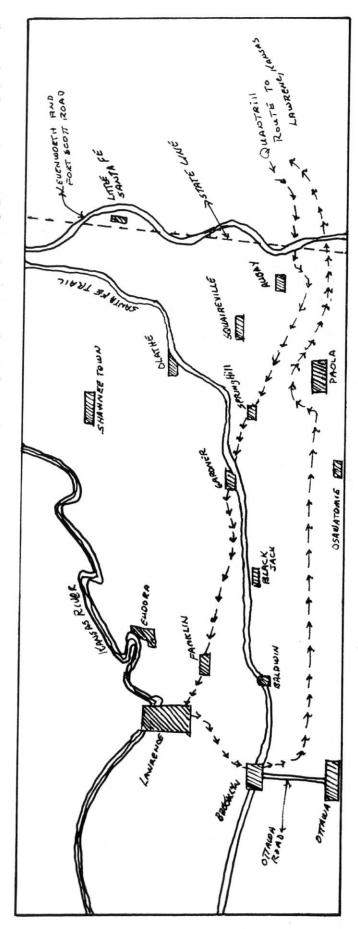
QUANTRILL WAS READY — Quantrill sent five men into Lawrence to locate the two men he had sent to Lawrence some two or three weeks earlier. Here some of the men under Quantrill were ready to quit as they felt it was too risky to raid a town so large. Quantrill said "he would enter the town if he had to go alone", and when he advanced he was followed by his whole command.

LAWRENCE WAS HELPLESS — Lawrence was unprotected and helpless. Two camps of recruits were her

only troops, numbering less than 30 and also unarmed. The arms provided for defense of the town had been collected and locked-up by the City Fathers. Quantrill had been expected often but had failed to come, and it was their decided conviction that he would never come to Lawrence because of it's size, nearing 3,000 people. But here he came. The first thing Quantrill's men came upon was a camp of white recruits, and instantly rode them down. The colored recruits fled at the sight of all the guerrillas and most all escaped with their lives.

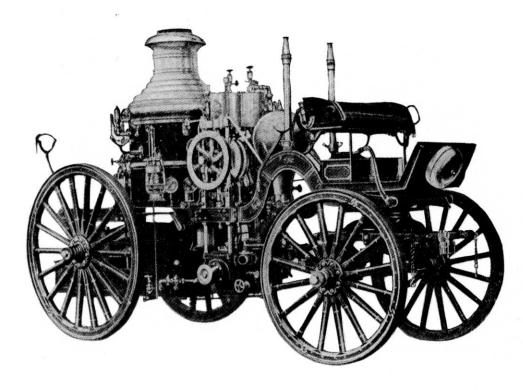
THE SLAUGHTER BEGINS — The town was aroused by the horsemen galloping through the streets and the screams of men who were shot on sight. Fire was set to almost every store and house. Terror seized every man when they realized the situation, and were shot as they ran for cover. Stores were looted and the burning homes were ransacked for plunder to carry back to Missouri. Women and children were stripped of jewelry, ornaments and keepsakes.

CAST INTO FLAMES — Husbands were torn from the arms of shreiking wives and murdered. Wounded men were cast into seething flames to die by fire. Some of the men who were once part of the Fire Department, rushed to the Livery Stable where the carts and hoses were kept. They were caught and forced back into the Livery Stable, and the stable set afire. Quantrill's men laughed and drank until the screams of the men inside the stable were gone. After some 4½ hours of murder and plunder, Quantrill and his band of guerrillas made their retreat back into Missouri.



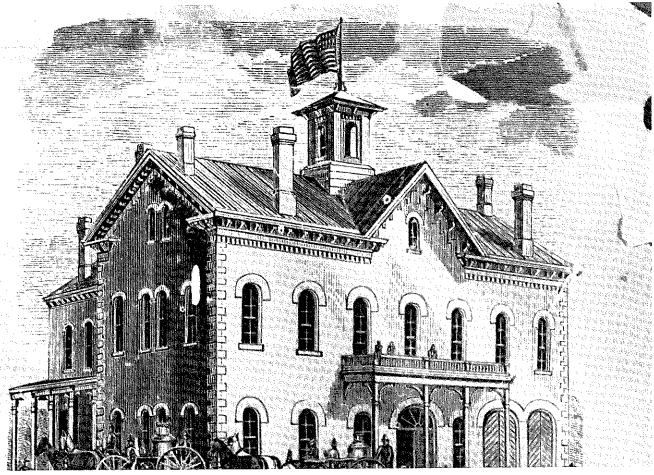
HARPERS WEEKLY 9-5-1863.

Photo courtesy Kansas State Historical Society



City of Lawrence Purchased an Ahrens (Continental) Steam Piston Pumper like the one above in the year 1868.

It took Lawrence some five years to gain back the stability it had before the Quantrill Massacre. During this time only small bucket brigade companies were formed from time to time. In 1868, the City Council, after constant persuasion by the local businessmen, could see some immediate action must be taken for more and better fire protection. The City Council voted to spend the sum of \$6,525.00, for an Ahrens Steamer and two Hose Carts. With the equipment on order, the City Council called for the formation of a new organization of volunteer fire fighters. Selected to accomplish this task of getting men to act as volunteer fireman went to Mr. E.R. Chadwick, a member of the City Council. Mr. Chadwick immediately drafted a Constitution and By-Laws for the new organization, the name of the organization to be: "Head Center Hose Company". Upon arrival of the new equipment it was to be housed in a small barn on the corner of Quincy and Vermont, (Now known as 11th and Vermont.) The barn was owned by another City Councilman who sold the property to the city for the purpose of a Fire House, nicknamed "Old Engine Room". Mr. E. R. Chedwick then set about the task of getting 12 men to volunteer as fire fighters which must have been more difficult than expected, because it took until March 1, 1869, before the "Head Center Hose Company" had it's first organized meeting.



City Hall in the year of 1869 photo courtesy Paul Ingels

#### HEAD CENTER HOSE COMPANY

The Head Center Hose Company was formerly organized on March 1, 1869, with the following members:

•	-
E. R. CHEDWICK	CHIEF
H LEONARD	FIRST ASSISTANT
G THOMAS	SECOND ASSISTANT
H WHITMAN	SECRETARY
R. JOHNSON	IREASURER
G. BRIGGS	PIPEMEN
H KESTING	PIPEMEN
G. BENNETT	PIPEMEN
J. MC CURDY	PIPEMEN
H. SUTHER	PIPEMEN
W. BANGS	LEADING HOSEMAN
E. C. COOK	SECOND HOSEMAN

#### MARKET HOUSE BUILDING

The Market House Building on the corner of Henry and Vermont was originally built as a "Market". Due to the amount of money it took to build such a large building, before it was completed, the owner was forced to sell because of a shortage of money to complete it. Later the City purchased the building to be used as a City Hall The name Market House Building was dropped and it became known as City Hall.

In June 1869, the City requested the Head Center Hose Company to move all the equipment from the Old Engine Room to the new City Hall. The Fire Department occupied the back of the building, with doors that opened onto Henry Street. The City offices, and the Police Department were in the front portion of the building facing Vermont Street.

The following taken from the original log books dated June 9, 1869.

Oorstitution

and

By-Laws

flead Center

Hose Company

f The
City of Laurence

## Order of Business

1. Reading of the minutes

2 Fines aha Dues collected

3. Report of Offices and Committees

4. Deferred Business

5 Chestion of Offices

6 Clartion of Whenebers

7. Miscellaneous Busmess. 8. Koll Call.

Constitution

Article 1

This Company shall be Known as the Read Center Hose Company, of the city of Laurence.

Article 2

The officers of this Company Shall consist of a Foreman, First Assistant Forelian, Second Assistant Foreman, Secretary, Treasures, and four Pipement.

## Article 3

The regular meetings of This Company shall be held be held on the first Thursday of each mouth, at half past server (71/2) velock for m, when selven members shall constitute a quorum to transach business; Shokeld an alani of fire occur Sufficient to interfere with its organizing, or render it's adjournment necessary, then the meeting shall be held but he following levening of the same hour.

Article 4

The yembers of this Company Shall be chosen by ball of, and when and when confirmed by the City Council, they Shall thecome daly elected.

Article 5 Each member share be liable to such fines and dres as the By Laws may prescribe, and no resignation of wembers shall be accepted until all dues are pard or remitted

Article 6.

Any Member may be removed from office or expelled from the leanfrank for non-attendance at meetings.

for a veolation of these articles,

for a breach of trush, for drunkenness,

for profacilty, for improper conduct;

for the non-payment of fines and dues

There weeks notice of such non-payment

being first givero provided he is given

ay opportunity of making a defense

Article 7

before The Reompany

The arrival election of officers for this company shall be held at the regular meeting in May of each year Vacancies that be folded at any legular meetiling.

Article 8
No alteration or amendment shall be made to these articles except by a live Thuds vote of all the merullers of the Company.

Sy-Laure Sheet leonificany shale be composed of livelne aptive mew. See 2, to person under the age of lightien shall be eligible to membership see 3 to person having been rejeted by the beorgany, shall be profosed for membership for three months

Dulies Dection 1. On every alann of fire, all members shale repair thinkediately to the apparalies and assist in that necessary duties until the five es extinguished, when they shall come The apparatus to its proper place. In case the alarm which caused The removal of the apparatus prone false, they shall return with it to The Congho House, and there remain until hole is called and the Company diemissed. See. 2. to person shall be eligible to office who has not been a number for at least three mouths, unless by They unanimous consent of the Cearly any Lee 3. Cach member of the Company Shall be liable for all assessments made by a vote of the Company, and to a fine of twenty fine cents for non-attendances at the meetings unless excused by the Foreshaw

Article 3 Dulies of the Presiding Officer Lection! The Presiding Office Shale husewe order in all intellings of the Company, take the opinion of all motions when seconded and decide The question when the votes are equal? This decission on all questions forder Shall be immediately submitted to, unless an appeal is made therefrom by fine members. Bee. 2 He may, and of the written request of fito members shall care special meetings of the Company. Sec. 3. Hee Shall have porner to fine any member for disorderly I conduct at the Meetings, from which There shall be no stonedation, steept it be moved and seconded at the same meeting and carried by there fourths of the thrembers present, and it shall also be his duly to fine any member, who shall vistate any of the laws of this Confrant. See. it. Hee shall appoint all Special committees, circless otherwan directed by the bombany, and shall sign all lorders on the Deasurer which shall have been previously Sauctioned by the Company

Deetres of the Treasurer

It shall be the duty of the Treasurer
to secent are money belonging to the
Correspond, and disburse the same
as the Cookfrang may duret, and report,
quarticly the condition of the finances
of the Company He shall, whenever
trequired settle his accounts with a
committee appointed by the Company
for that purpose.

Section 1. It shall be the duty of the Secretary to Keep fair and Correct Minutes of the every meeting of the beompany, have charge of the records and papers belonging to the Company (Those of the Heakiner alone steepted) Call the Roll at the close of every meeting and collect the fine of the absence, and Keep fair accounts believe the longhand, and to members.

of the Secretary to Rup a record of the Secretary to Rup a record and five alarms of five, call the role of the close of all such meetings Whole the members absent present and report to higher authority whenever regulied.

1869

At 8 o clock p. m company met we request meeting at Engine Room Minhits of last meeting class and accepted Constitutions rease and adopted, and no motion the Secretary was ordined to have the same punted On motion of was voted that the leave fackets as a Unit form.
On motion beompany adjourned & D. Whiting and

FIRST RECORDED ALARM

e At 9/2 o'clock, an alarm of "fino was sounded, which proved to be a small frame barn belonging to a Mr Scheel of the fino of "thele Da See & Severs) Residing gulkenticky St. The Engine was on the and and ot work in good season and the fire Etinguished with damage to other brilding Melennics present (Chadwick, Seonard Thomas 12 ohnson Lugton Johnson Thitman Johnson Thitman). Thitman

HEAVY BURDEN

The city had promised Chief Chadwick that as soon as he had the new Fire Department organized and ready to fight fires they would buy a team to pull the new steamer and hose carts.

But when the company was ready, the city council decided there were not that many fires The volunteers were receiving a total of \$3 00 for each fire so they could push or pull the equipment to the location of the fires This would save spending money on a team at this time

The fireman worked like "little beavers" when the cry of fire was sounded, pulling and pushing the steamer and hose carts to and from the fires As you can imagine in almost every fire, by the time the steamer arrived the building was totally consumed by fire. This was extremely alarming to the local citizens. They had a new steamer and two hose carts, yet every time there was a fire almost everything was lost.

Chief Chadwick complained so much that he and all his men were asked by the City Council to resign from the Fire Department. They did so on May 26, 1870

EVERYONE WANTED TO VOLUNTEER

After attempting to reform the Head Center Hose Company, the City Council could see no one wanted to pull or push a steamer and hose cart down a muddy street. Still determined not to buy teams, they decided to pass a City Ordinance to the effect that "any person who is a qualified volunteer firefighter will be totally exempt from Personal Property Tax, Poll Tax, and Home Guard". With the new City Ordinance and the \$3.00 pay for each fire it brought many volunteers. In fact, almost every City Councilman joined the Fire Department.

After a very short time almost every City Councilman had quit. Irregardless of the exemptions and pay, they wanted no part of pulling or pushing that equipment down the streets As they quit they hired their relation or a person of the same political belief to replace them. This created a political organization instead of qualified firefighters The city had only personnel interested in exemptions or a political standing Once again the City was forced to change the City Ordinances, but reluctant to release their political hold, the change was not radical. It read as follows "Volunteer fireman who stay 5 years and attend at least 2/3rds

of all fires during that 5 years would then be exempt from Personal Property Tax, Poll Tax and Home Guard for the remainder of his life as long as he lived in Lawrence, Kansas.

During this period the City went through some four Chief's and more firemen than possible to count. Proper firefighting was practically a joke. No one knew what to do or how to do it. There were quite a few accidents and many fine homes were completely destroyed

In 1875 when Mr. E. Manter was elected Chief, the first thing he did was gain the support of the local citizens, who were already up in arms at the local politicians. Together the Chief and local citizens forced the City Council to delete from the City Ordinances that portion concerning exemptions from Personal Property and Poll Tax, keeping the exemption of Home Guard and adding Jury Duty. They were also forced to purchase proper teams for the purpose of pulling the equipment of the Fire Department.

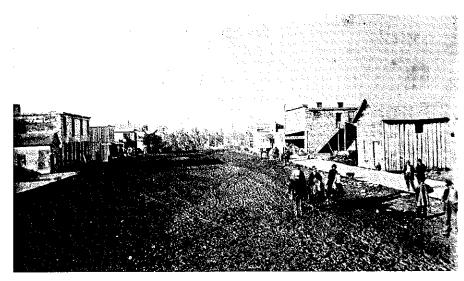
Actual accounts taken from the original log books

#### WHO'S IN CHARGE

(1869) — An alarm of fire at the Englishman's store behind Vermont and Massachusets Streets at 8 ½ O'Clock. The company was at the Station House in good time and laid hose from the cistern on Massachusets Street to the house. Due to orders and counterorders from everyone involved, there was no stream of water deployed on the fire. In the meantime the house completely burned to the ground. The local citizens were roaring with laughter at the complete state of confusion the department was in.

#### FIRST ACCIDENT

(November 13, 1869) An alarm of fire was sounded at 9 ½ O'Clock from the house belonging to that of Mr Shaw who lived on the West Side of Massachusets Street. As the fire was starting to come through the roof, in an attempt to save the property, fireman George Leyton climbed onto the roof with the hose. He missed his footing and fell to the ground approximately 25 to 30 feet, breaking both legs. Mr Leyton received no compensation for the hospital or time lost from employment. In fact, the time lost from the Fire Department was so long he was asked to tender his resignation on December 6, 1869



Massachusets Street around 1863

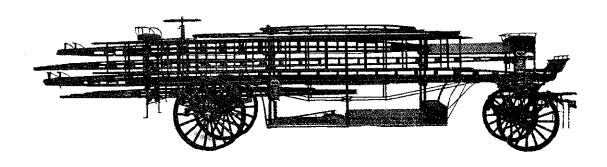
#### FROM THE RECORD BOOK

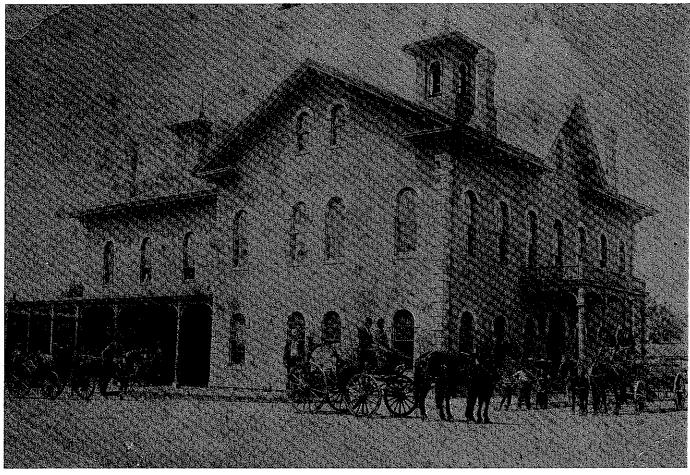
#### **MUDDY STREETS**

(February 16, 1870) Between 9 and 10 A.M. an alarm of fire was sounded from the south part of town. The house belonging to that of Mr Adams, known as the Tanner House. The company was on hand in good time but due to the streets being soft the Steam engine and hose carts could only be pulled as far as the Sutter House cistern. The men just could not pull the apparatus any further. All the department could do was stand and watch the fine house of Mr. Adams, with all the out-buildings burn completely down

#### WHOOP'S FORGOT SOMETHING

(March 3, 1870) An alarm of fire was sounded at 8 O'Clock by the burning of two buildings between Warren and Barkley Streets. The company was promptly on hand and ready, but with the streets being very muddy the men had considerable difficulty in getting the engine and hose carts to the fire. When the Chief ordered suction hose to be put down the cistern they found to their suprise the suction hose had been left at the station house. A twenty-minute delay was caused by the return of firemen to the station house for the suction hose. By the time water was ready the two homes were completely destroyed





The Lawrence Fire Department — 1875 — Photo courtesy Mr. A Stemmerman

TOTAL	NUN	ABER O	F FIRES IN	1869	TOTAL NUMBER OF F	IRES IN 1870
MAR APR MAY JUN JUL AUG SEP OCI NOV DEC TOTAL				0 0 1 1 0 0 0 0 3 3 3 0	JAN FEB MAR APR MAY JUN JUL AUG SEP OCT NOV DEC TOTAL	1 1 2 1 3 0 1 0 0 0 0 3 4
Total payro		drills and		\$720.00	Total payroll for drills and fires	\$1,440 00

#### FIREMEN PURCHASE FIRE BELL

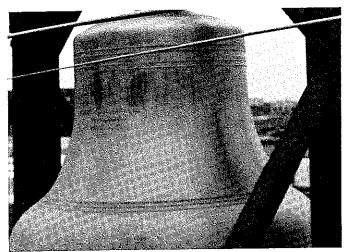


Photo taken 1975

Taken from the Fire Department Record Books.

LETTER TO MAYOR

May 22, 1871, a letter from the Chief of the Head Center Hose Company to the Mayor and City Council. "To the Honorable Mayor and City Council. The Head Center Hose Company would like to inquire as to what action has been taken in regard to the Purchasing of a suitable "Fire Bell" for the City of Lawrence

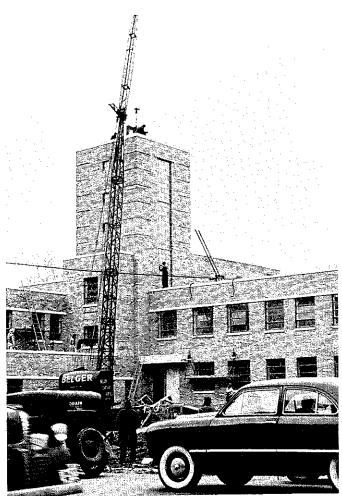
Some three months ago we tendered to the City money collected by the fireman of the Head Center Hose Company, towards the purchase of a "Fire Bell", and unless immediate action is taken in regard to it we wish to withdraw our offer"

#### BELL TO BE INSTALLED BY FIREMEN

The fire bell was eventually purchased by the city with the money the Head Center Hose Company furnished, from the Union Bell Company of New York in 1872.

Upon receiving the "Fire Bell" it became the job of the firemen to hand hoist the bell into the bell tower of City Hall, some 85 feet. The bell weighed 2,100 pounds and it took the twelve fireman seven days to hand hoist the bell to the top of the tower. According to the record book they

would build one platform after another until finally reaching the top The bell was used for all emergencies until 1880.



Old Bell being installed in new Fire Station (1951) Chief Paul Ingles in the center of photo supervises the installation — Photo courtesy P Ingles

TOWN OUTGROWS BELL

As the town began to grow and spread out a louder and more penetrating noise seemed needed. A whistle was installed on the new water works tower, (nicknamed "Wild Cat"). It was very loud and could be heard from a greater distance. A code system was used for the signaling of fires.

One long blast on the whistle would be the call of fire, and one short blast for the number one ward, two short blasts for the number two ward and so on. It also indicated to the fireman that there was plenty of water pressure in the water main at the location of the fire. The whistle was used until the telephone was more popular.

The old bell was not used very much after the whistle replaced it. It rang on very special occasions such as when World War I was declared and again on Armistice Day. In 1903, when North Lawrence residents were threatened by the Kaw River flood, the bell rang out one midnight to summon the men in south Lawrence to come to the river front and man launches and row boats to help evacuate the people in North Lawrence who were trapped by the rising water. In 1919, material for the making of bells was in very short demand. The bell-makers were having a difficult time in filling their order for new bells. The Union Bell Company sent a letter with an urgent plea that the Lawrence bell be sold back to the company.

In the discussion that followed, Fire Chief Paul Ingles, who was also chief bellringer, refused to sell the bell

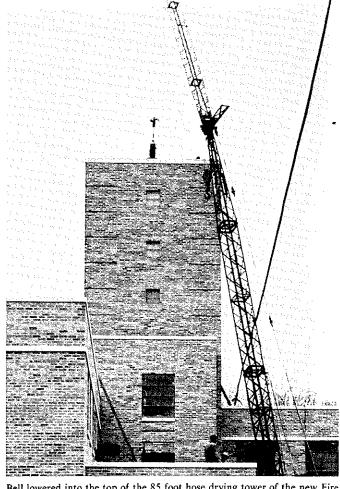
Although the pressure from the City Council was strong he remained steadfast in his decision. According to Chief Ingles — "true the old bell was used very little, but it was one of the original items the Fire Department had purchased and it was going to stay with the department"

Taken from the Lawrence Journal World June 27, 1966

## OLD FIRE BELL BRINGS MEMORIES OF EXCITING, THRILLING EVENTS

If you've never heard the fire bell when it hung in the belfry of the old Lawrence City Hall on 8th and Vermont Street, you have missed a thrill that you could never forget

Sixty odd years ago, fires and fire-department were exciting and thrilling things. When a fire broke out, the bell rang out long and clear, then there would be a short pause, and then a peal of whatever ward the fire was in, then more long ringing This would then be repeated in case you didn't get the ward number the first time. One ring was for the first ward, two for the second, and so on. No matter what you were doing, meal time or other, when that exciting magic sound pealed forth, you dropped everything and ran to the corner to watch the horses bolt out and gallop down the street to the fire.



Bell lowered into the top of the 85 foot hose drying tower of the new Fire Station (1951) Photo courtesy P Ingles

## SOME HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 1800'S



-CHARTLAND HOTEL BURNS

COMPANY GETS BADGES

(January 6, 1875, 8½ O'Clock) The Chartland Hotel burned Firemen worked 4-hours in the coldest weather possible Mrs Summerfield served the company "Red Hot" coffee which kept them going.

July 17, 1876, Chief E Manter discussed the possibility of getting badges for the members of the Head Center Hose Company with the City Council. The City Council stated they would okay the badges if the men paid for them. Cost for the badges was \$1.00 per badge.

**NEW CHIEF** 

April 5, 1875, E. Manter was elected Chief of the Head Center Hose Company

- NATIONAL HOTEL BURNS

(November 12, 1875, 1 O'Clock) The National Hotel burned. Firemen worked 3-hours trying to control the fire. The company completely drained the cistern at the corner of Massachusets and Winthrop

TOTAL PAYROLL

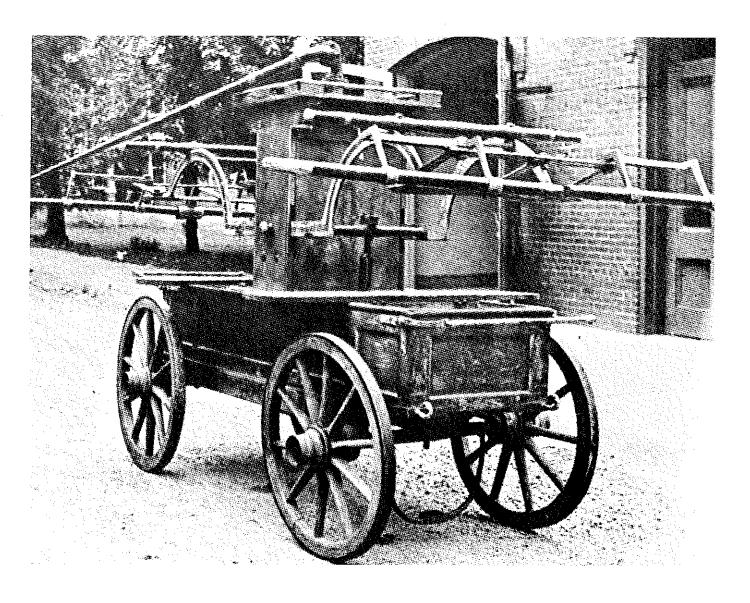
During 1875, there were 13 Fires and 24 Drill periods for a total of \$1,332.00

SCHOOL BURNS -

(December 5, 1876, 2 O'Clock) Quincy Street School Burned The firemen worked very hard in the cold weather to save the school but due to the shortage of water in the area all attempts failed.

NEW RESOLUTION ——

(February 7, 1881) A resolution was offered and passed by the company. It stated as of this date only members of the Head Center Hose Company may occupy the beds in the "Bunk Room" Also when a member of said company will not use said beds he must tender his resignation immediately"



HONORARY MEMBERSHIP

LUMBER YARD FIRE

January 3, 1881, W. Wiederman submitted his resignation from the company after having served since 1870. The company voted to amend the Constitution to read, "The company may have HONORARY MEMBERS" by a unanimous vote of the company William Wiederman was then voted the first Head Center Hose Company Honorary Member.

(March 12, 1881, 11 O'Clock) An alarm of fire was sounded coming from the Hamilton-Shaw Lumber Factory at the corner of Quincy and Rhode Island, the mud made it very difficult in getting to the fire Soon after the engine arrived, suction was put down and two streams were put on the burning building. After 4 hours of hard fighting the fire was under control Total loss of the fire was \$20,000.00

#### 1886 - 1887

## AGAIN POLITICS ALMOST DESTROY THE FIRE DEPARTMENT

1882 — Politics have always ruled how the Fire Department would be operated even who could or could not be hired as a fire-fighter.

Consequently no one studied fire fighting as it should have been. The men never wore full uniforms, they followed no rules and regulations. They only wanted to be good party workers. They only expected to hold their jobs a short while, which gave them no incentive to try studying the practical side of fire-fighting.

After the election of a new Mayor and City Council in 1882, almost every man on the department was asked to resign because they did not have the same political views.

Chief E. Manter refused to let his men resign or quit. He made a statement in the Journal World—"NO LONGER WOULD THE FIRE DEPARTMENT BE A POLITICAL PAWN. FIRE PROTECTION FOR THE CITY OF LAWRENCE WAS FAR MORE IMPORTANT THAN POLITICAL VIEWS"

Immediately after the statement was published he received public support which saved his job. More importantly it immediately constituted a whole new aspect towards practical fire-fighting.

Training classes were established on proper fire-fighting, safety, and hose procedures It also eliminated personnel interested only in a political gain

Of course it was not all that easy to change the City's position, as Chief Manter was to discover. It seems immediately the support for funds to operate the department were in very short demand, in fact non-existent throughout the remainder of 1882 and most of 1883, the department was not to receive one piece of new equipment or any money to maintain what equipment they already had on hand. E Manter remained Chief until 1889.

#### EQUIPMENT FALLING APART

1883 — The steamer and most of the hose the Head Center Hose Company had was purchased in 1869. Everything was getting old, the steamer could not hold much pressure, yet the hose was holding pressure but for how long? Without funds to purchase new equipment or repair the old, the Company could not handle a large fire at all

After many requests from the Chief to the City Council, requesting the purchase of new or repair of the old equipment, the answer was always the same.

"After a close inspection by the City Councilmen it is our firm belief the apparatus and equipment look so good it could not by any possible means be bad"

(Entry taken from the Fire Department Record Book January 16, 1883, 2 ½ O'Clock) — The alarm of fire was given. All member of the company responded in good time and soon we were at the fire The fire proved to be in the building off Massachusets between Berkley and Warren Streets. We soon had everything working but as the old engine was not able to carry over 80 pounds steam, the fire continued to get larger. Soon we ran out of water in the cistern. We then moved to the cistern at the corners of Henry and Massachusets Streets, and then the trouble really began. What rubber hose we had begun to burst and we were forced to leave the lines and began using buckets. As expected, we could not save much.

The Chief ordered the split-hose left in the middle of the street so that some of the near-sighted councilmen could see just what kind of tools they expected us to work with

#### OLD TIME ARSON

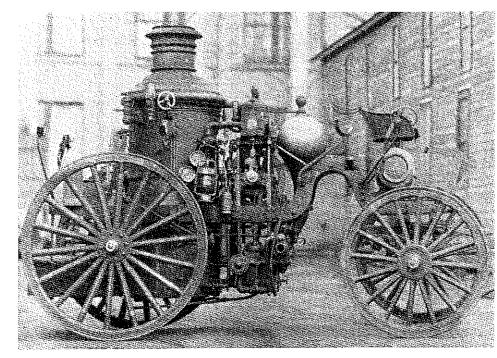
Taken from the Fire Department Record Books.

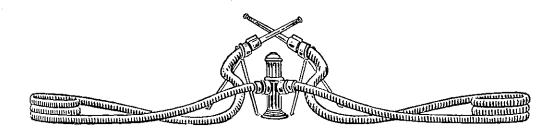
(February 4, 1886) A fire alarm was sounded The fire proved to be a small frame house on New Jersey, occupied by a Miss Banning. House was a total loss by the time the company arrived. The only thing the department could do was save adjoining property

#### A HARD NIGHTS WORK

(January 8, 1887) The alarm of fire was given at 11:30 P.M. The fire proved to be in the Millinery Department of Kahnwiler Trade Palace. The company was on hand promptly and at the cistern in front of the building. Water soon failed here so the engine moved to the cistern at Lee and Massachusets. Water failed there too so the engine moved to the Post Office cistern. At this time the hose lines froze, giving no water at all. The fire progressed and engulfed the adjoining buildings. The following is a list of stores that were completely lost: KAHNWILER BROS, J.A. MONTGUMERY FOOD STORE, GEORGE FALLEY'S RESTAURANT, ASCELRN'S, AND THE SALVATION ARMY. The company worked all night using buckets to keep it from spreading further.

(February 9, 1886) A fire alarm was sounded. This time on the corner of Lee and Massachusets Streets to a small frame house occupied by a Miss Banning. "same person as the fire on the 4th of February". After some hard talk and other persuasion the Fire Chief determined both fires were set on purpose by Miss Banning. On the 10th of February 1886, the Mayor and the Fire Chief called upon Miss Banning and issued her with an alternative "either leave town while there were still some buildings left, or go to Jail"





At 2 O'Clock the fire was still burning brightly, but at least it was under control. Had the city water works been completed it is probable that the tremendous lost of property, the value of which was more than the entire cost of the water works, could have been averted.

Taken from the Kansas Collection in Spencer Library University of Kansas

#### FIVE STORES BURNED

About half past eleven last night fire was discovered in the rear of A B KAHNWILER & BROS Dry Goods Store, efforts were made to extinguish it, and the Fire Department was promptly warned and on the grounds in a very short time. In spite of the tremendous efforts made, the flames spread rapidly, and in a short time the entire store was one vast sheet of flames.

A large crowd soon gathered, and the men worked like hero's in vain-endeavors to check the advance of the flames. It wasn't long before the supply of water was exhausted, and the engine had to be moved a block.

In the meantime rapid progress was made by the flames, and it became evident that the entire McCollugh Block was doomed to destruction.

Kahnwilder store occupies two rooms, and soon Ascelrn's Grocery on the South and Falley Restaurant, on the North were ablaze in every part, the firey flames busting from every window.

Ascelrn's grocery and the Salvation Army were soon givenup to the flames and Montgumery's Grocery on the South and Straffor's Drug Store on the North, were the limits of the fire

If the progress of the fire had not been arrested at Montgumery's, no earthly power could have kept it from going into the Methodist Church corner. All of the McCullough Block and half of the House Block were consumed.

Much damage was done to the other half of the Latter Building The orgin of the fire was a mystery A.B. Kahnwilder was seen by the reporter, and he said "I don't have the slightest idea as to the cause I just finished invoicing, and my stock was worth approximately \$55,000.00 and only \$35,000.00 was under insurance".

When the fire reached the Kerosene barrels in the Grocery Stores, a terrific explosion occured, which shook the buildings and broke glass across the street. The Fire engine team that was attached to the wagon ran away through the crowd, scattering them in every direction. The team ran to the Pacific Express Office, where they broke loose from the engine, and ran it into a store. The team was finally stopped in the east part of town

The success of the Fire Department in controlling the flames under such difficulties was remarkable. The engine had to be moved many times since little water was in the cisterns. But through determination on their part and with buckets in hand they worked all night to extinguish the flames.

#### Taken from the Fire Department Record Books

(March 2, 1888, 9:00 A.M.) A small house at 945 New Hampshire, was discovered on fire and the alarm was at once telephoned into the Fire Department. Although the location of the fire at the corner of Quincy and New Hampshire was sent to the Department, the driver of the Hose Cart, I. Taylor, said he didn't believe it was there because he lived there

He drove to the corner of Pinkney and New Hampshire. His house burned completely to the ground while he was at the wrong address.

(May 13, 1890) While responding to a fire, Fireman F.D. Cosley was ran down by the Hose Cart, driven by H. Davis Both of Cosley's legs were crushed so badly he never returned to active duty.

(February 2, 1895) While responding to an alarm, the Hook and Ladder Wagon hit some ice on Massachusets Street and overturned, seriously injuring five firemen — A Watts, broken Colar Bone and Crushed Chest, — W. Reinish, Ankle and Leg Smashed, — F. Reinish, Leg Broken

A Watts later died without completely recovering from the accident.

1896 — 1899

#### Taken from Fire Department Record Books

(May 4, 1896) — The department received a new team of horses to be assigned to the Hook and Ladder

(September 30, 1896) — The Bowersocks Opera House Fire

(September 30, 1896) — Fireman William Reinisch is awarded the "Fireman of the State Award". William Reinisch received the award in Topeka Kansas, after a parade in which all the outstanding Fireman from different departments within the State attended

(October 10, 1896) — The Mayor called upon the department to respond to a fire outside the city limits. The owner of the property was required to pay the company an hourly wage for the time spent in extinguishing the fire Total amount paid by the owner \$1900, the money was split up among the firemen

(April 5, 1897) — A new device called "Electric Bells" was installed on the Bridge to North Lawrence, to warn on coming traffic of a fire in that area

(April 6, 1897) — William Reinisch was appointed Assistant Chief of the Head Center Hose Company by order of the City Council.

(April 18, 1897) — The company had a disastrous fire in the Donnelly's Big Livery Barn. Twenty horses and a lot of personal property lost.

(January 3, 1898) — Members met at Engine House for pictures for the memorial album.

(March 1, 1898) — Of of the largest fires on the Kansas University was today when the Power Plant was struck by lightning, the department could not do anything towards extinuishing the fire because the University have hydraunts and the company does not have enough hose to reach to the closest hydraunt.

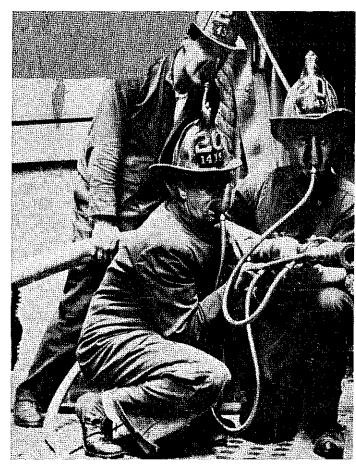
(June 6, 1898) — After the fire to the Power Plant on the University, Water mains and new hydraunts were installed on the University grounds. The company made test runs

with the Hook and Ladder and Hose Carts to the University Grounds.

(June 6, 1898) — Fireman Ed. Kieefe was selected to attend the Southwestern Association of Volunteer Firemans convination at Pittsburg Kansas

(January 30, 1899) — A special meeting called to decide just what kind of proper fire-fighting equipment was needed to help the men. The company decided to buy helmets, rubber coats and also try to buy the new Miller Smoke Protectors. The coats and helmets were purchased from the Olson Fire Protecting Company

(May 5, 1899) — A special meeting the company voted to help pay Fireman William Beals medical expencis because of the injuries received in the fire at Donnelly's Livery Barn. The money to come from the new Relief Fund in accordance with City Ordiance 248.



Miller Smoke Protectors — Latest invention for Fire Fighters Photo courtesy Water and Fire Eng

## OPERA HOUSE AFIRE.

The Interior of the Building Gutted This Morning About 1 O'clock by a Very Stubborn Blaze

#### THE LOSS WILL BE SEVERAL THOUSAND DOLLARS.

This morning at 1 o'clock the fire alarm was sounded for a fire that when discovered had the entire north side of the opera house in a mass of flamesand which seemed to threaten almost inevitable destruction to the entire opera house block The fire department was at the fire in a very short time, and soon had water on the flames. The work for a time seemed in vain for it was almost impossible to locate the fire, and it had gotten such a good start before it was discovered that the entire building was enveloped in smoke, and the fire could be seem creeping out in innumerable

The firemen put one stream after an. other on the burning building till there were three big streams of water pouring upon the fire. This had some effect. but the work had to be continued a couple of hours before the danger was over and the fire extinguished.

Soon after the firemen got to work they saw that they had a big job before them, and put forth every effort to get the blaze under control. The fire seemed to hang along close to the roof after it left the stage, where it first started, and it was very hard to get under control The three streams of water and the vigorous work on the part of the regular fire department and those who sided them, told on the fire finally and it was aubdued.

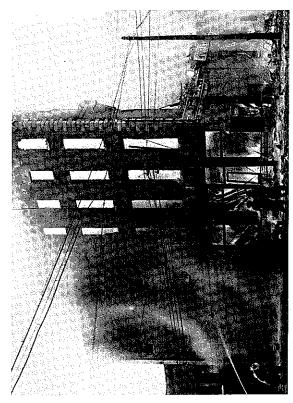
The work of the firemen has been commended on all sides today. They were working against great odds, the fire having gotten such a start and burn. ing through where it was almost impossible to locate it The water was thrown with judgement, and even when the whole upper part of the building was ablaze and it was the general expression that it could not be saved in any way, the firemen were working like beavers, and did save the building. They kept the fire from all the walls except the one north of and next to the stage where the fire broke out

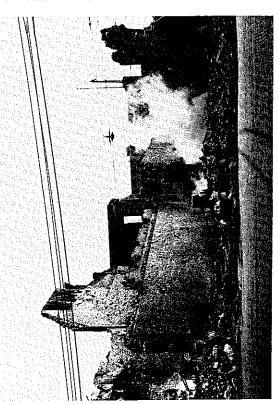
The elements they had to contend with were many, and when the building was viewed this morning everybody expressed the opinin that the result of the fire department's work was almost maryelous. The members are being patted on the back by the whole town this morning, and every word of praise that is spoken of them is deserved.

## **ACTUAL NEWS PAPER** ACCOUNT OF THE **OPERA HOUSE**

### FIRE

September 30, 1896





## TWENTY HORSES BURNED TO DEATH.

Fire Quickly Destroys Donnelly's Big Livery Barn and Most of Its Contents.

#### STARTED IN THE CENTER OF THE LOFT.

The Fire Department Taxed to the Utmost to Confine the Flames to the One Building-List of the Losses and the Losers -Stable Will Be Rebuilt.

At 5:40 last evening the fire depart covered that the whole loft was in ment was called to Donnelly's livery fiames. stable on New Hampshire street, and on | There are a number of stories affoat vahicles

it was only the hardest kind of work! The effect of the fire on the horses on the part of the fire department that was horrible. There was not the exconfined the flames to the one main pected screaming and wild stampede, but building, or even made it possible to the pleading and subdued cries of the save the vehicles and other things that | dumb beasts for liberty, struck responwere taken from the burning building, sive chords in the big crowd that soon

Sweeney who was out near his own be done for the helpless creatures, and stable when he first noticed a little they died tied in their stalls. moke coming through the roof of the livery barn. As soon as he realized day caused many of the good livery that his barn was afire, but before he could get there and the alarm could be horses that were confined in their burninto names and was rapidly devouring search was commenced under the debris. the stable.

horses would have to perish.

Mr. Donnelly had a valuable trotting Mr. Donnelly had a number of hoardmare "Sprattle," in a box stall at the ing horses at the stable, but owing to rear end of the stable that he himself the day the greater number of them made a desperate effort to save but both were saved and most of those taken our he and his brother were driven back by before the fire got too far along belong. the suffocating smoke, and barely got ed to someone hesides Mr. Donnelly. out of the stable in time to escape, and though some of the horses burned were it net of the stable that Mr. Donnelly 'boarders." prized so much, was one of those lost.

arriving found the whole of the main about boys who were seen to leave the part one mass of flames. The stable stable just a little before the fire was burned, and in it were twenty horses discovered, and of visitors to the hay that could not be gotten out, besides a loft shortly before the fire broke out, but large amount of harness and some nothing definite has turned up, and the orignion of the fire was as much a mys-The fire swept along irresistibly, and tery today as it was first discovered.

The fire was seen first by Mr. Tom gathered at the fire, but nothing could

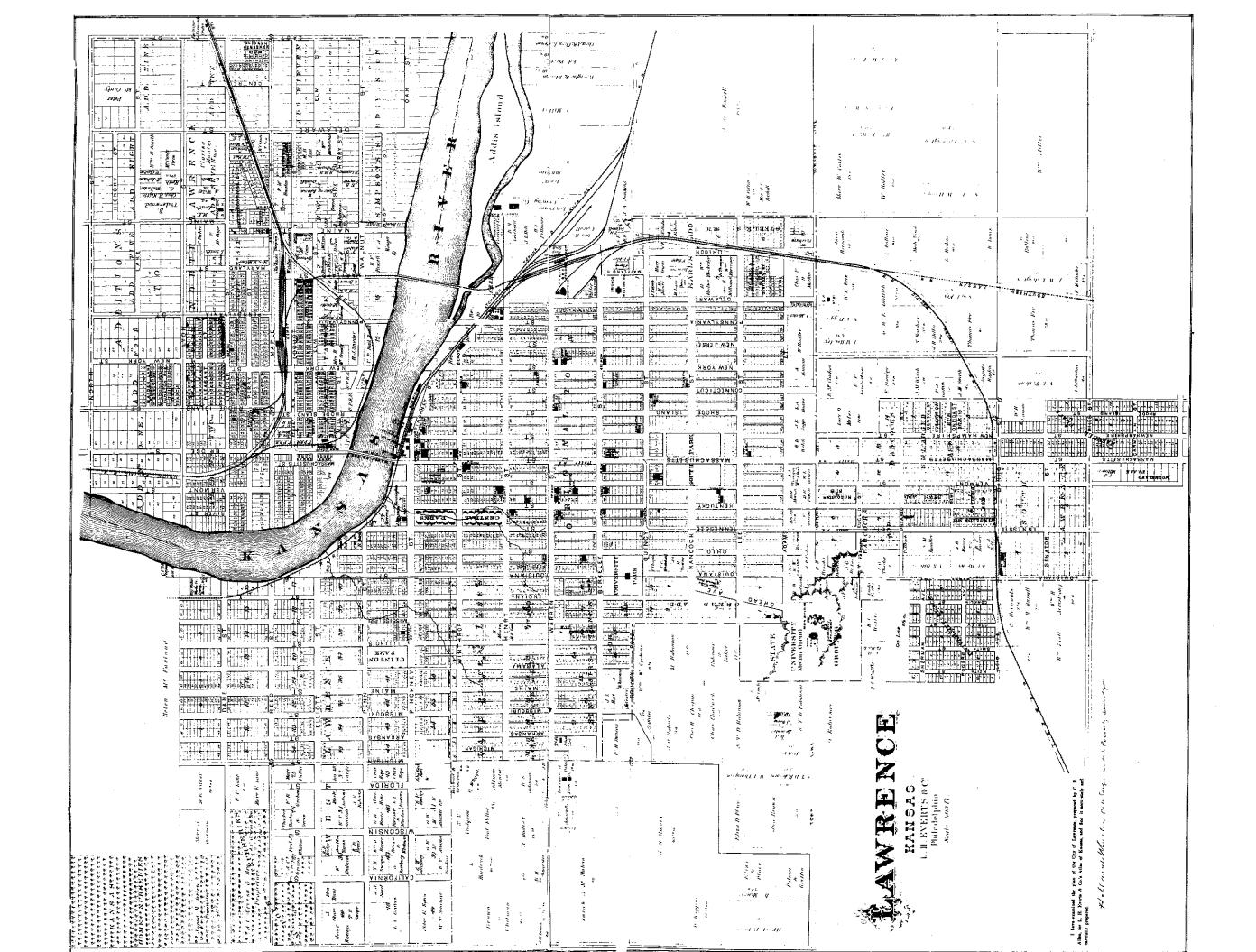
The fact that it was so beautiful a what was the matter he hastened to the horses and rigs to be out of the stable front of the stable to tell Mr. Donnelly and while the fire was burning it was impossible to estimate the number of turned in the smouldering fire had burst | ing graves. As soon as the fire was out and the carcasses of twenty of the The work of saving horses was com. animals were found in their stalls where menced just as soon as the first alarm they had met their death. Their bodies was given and four horses were suc- were draws and burned, and there was cessfully taken out The smoke was so every indication that the death that had dense, and the heat so intense that come to them was in its most terrible further efforts had to be abandoned and form, and that frightful paroxysms of horses in the rear of the stable left to pain were endured during their dying perish in the fiames It had taken but a moments. In nearly every case the moment for the fire to spread so that it flesh was burned from the bodies, and was impossible to do anything in the only by their location in the stable was stable, and it was seen that most of the it possible to recognize what ones of the stable had been lost,

**ACTUAL NEWS PAPER** ACCOUNT OF THE FIRE AT DONNELL'S LIVERY **STABLE** 

April 18, 1897

The fire started in the barn loft, about the center of the stable, and when it burst out it was but a moment till the sparks Jommunicated to the whole hav loft their destroying properties, and it was one terrific blaze The fire department got several streams of water on it before there seemed to be any slackening of the intensity of the flames. The water played on the fire for over two hours before it was all out but the work of the first few minutes was sufficient to make it possible to take up the work of getting buggies and wagons and harnesses out of the front part of the stable.

# THE AROUND CENTURY LAWRENCE THE OF



# HOSE AND EQUIPMENT PURCHASED 1876 — 1892

Year Date	Item	Company	Qty	Cost	Total Cost
1872 Sept 20	Hose	Eureka Hose Co.	500 Ft 1.	20 Per Ft	\$600.00
1881 Nov 7	Hose	Paragon Co.	500 Ft	90 Per Ft	\$45000
1882 May 1	Hose	Eureka Hose Co. Five Dz Renches Play Pipe		95 Per Ft	\$475.00 \$Free
1883 Feb 15	Hose	Eureka Hose Co. Six Sets Coupli W/Bands		95 Per Ft	\$475.00 \$Free
1895 Dec 17	Hose	Paragon Co.	300 Ft W/9 200 Ft W/	-	\$228.00 \$180.00
1889 Oct 23	Hose	Boston Hose Co.	500 Ft	70 Per Ft	\$350.00
1892 Apr 27	Hose	Boston Hose Co. One Hex Pipe	500 Ft .0	63 Per Ft	\$315.00 \$Free
1892 Sept 5	Hose	Ajax Hose Co.	500 Ft .:	70 Per Ft	\$350.00

1901 - 1902

Letter sent to Mayor and City Council by Chief W. Reinisch at the end of 1901.

Mr. Mayor and City Council

The following yearly report is submitted for your information and inspection

Again, it is requested the entire Fire Department be placed on a monthly paid basis. I have submitted for your concurance a request for a fully paid department the last four months without any answer.

I request again the 12 members of the Head Center Hose Company be paid a monthly wage, the amount of the wages to be agreed upon by the City Council.

It is our greatest aim to be completely ready whenever called upon to serve the City in the capacity of "Qualified Fire-Fighters" As you can see from the following report this department has an average of over three fires a month. With this number of fires a person must be fully trained and a "Qualified Fire-Fighter" or we are going to lose some lives and property.

#### YEARLY REPORT OF THE HEAD CENTER HOSE COMPANY

CHIEF
ASST CHIEF
DRIVER
DRIVER
FIREMAN
FIREMAN D. RICHARDSON
FIREMAN
TOTAL FIRES
TOTAL DRILLS
TOTAL AMOUNT PAID FOR FIRES AND DRILLS \$2,016,00

Chief William Reinisch

#### FIRE DEPARTMENT TAKES NEW CHIEF

As of June 1, 1901, William "Bill" Reinisch was appointed Chief of the Head Center Hose Company



Chief — 1901-1932

#### WILLIAM REINISCH

William Reinisch was born in Berlin Germany, in the year Association". It was his idea to take the money received 1869 After receiving most of his formal education in Germany, his parents decided to move to the United States. Along with his parents, a brother and two sisters they made the difficult move from Germany to the United States in 1888, not long after arriving in the United States, his father heard of a University in Lawrence Kansas. Mr. Reinisch was determined his children were going to have a college education and as the West was growing he decided Lawrence was just the place to go. The Reinisch's arrived in Lawrence in 1889 Mr. Reinisch opened a Roof Tinning Shop at 1029 Massachusets Street. William Reinisch enrolled in the University of Kansas and worked with his father in the tin shop at night

William Reinisch was not happy at the University and convinced his father he could do better in a career rather than education. He wanted to become a member of the Head Center Hose Company, and work in the tin shop with his

His first try at securing a job with the department came in 1892, at the age of 23. He would work with his father in the tin shop until the "cry of fire" was sounded and off he would go As time went by he began to spend more time at the in which the fire insurance was written, to be used as a "engine room" than he did at work.

forced to resign from the department in January 1893

William took over the tin shop and in no time at all, he had made the business quite lucrative. After his father's death. he took on a partner in the business so he could once again ing all the departments within the State asking for their join the department.

The experience he received from running the tin shop and dealing with people immediately showed. It seemed almost at once he took control of the department. By the third month after he had rejoined the department, he had drafted a plan for insurance for the fireman and asked the company to bring the matter before the City Council

J W Shaw, Chief, appointed William Reinisch a committee of one to take the plan before the Mayor and City Council.

After many attempts to bring the subject up to the City Councilmen he was finally told "not to bring the subject up again as the City could not afford the cost of insurance for the money According to the Fire Department Records the fireman".

But being German and a little "hard headed," he did not give up. He was sure he could get the insurance plan thru somehow.

In 1895, he tried to organize a "Lawrence Fireman Relief

from the "Annual Fireman's Ball" and also to have fund raising dinners, take the money put it into the bank, draw interest and eventually it would grow into a insurance and retirement plan

But this idea didn't set well with the other firemen at all. It had always been the procedure in the past to split all funds received by the department among themselves They wanted an insurance and retirement plan, but not with their money. As indicated in the Fire Department Records "Quote — Why should we put our money in a tin box in the bank when we can use it to buy cigar's and other things?" So without funds, and no apparent way to obtain them the "Lawrence Fireman Relief Association" folded Later that same month he wrote a letter to the Mayor and City Council, requesting permission to visit Mr J.D. Bowersocks in the State Capital After several discussions with Mr. J.D. Bowersocks, he drafted a resolution, to be introduced by Mr. Bowersocks to the State Legislator in hopes of getting a State Law passed to read "All Fire Insurance written with the fire districts of any city in the State of Kansas, of the total money received for such insurance would be returned to the State and in turn would be returned to the city retirement and insurance plan for that City's Fire Department, the money was to be controlled by a State Organiza-Because of his father's bad health, William Reinisch was tion known as "Kansas Fireman's Relief Association"

> At once the insurance companies organized in an attempt to fight the bill, and without other department's in the State support the bill was defeated. William Reinisch began writsupport and help in lobbying the bill in the State Capital. The bill was finally passed in late 1895

> After notification of the passage of the bill, the City immediately passed a City Ordinance stating "any money or funds received by the Head Center Hose Company from the State would be sent immediately to the City Treasurer" The City Treasurer was supposed to keep the funds received by the department separate from City Funds and to be used only for insurance, equipment, and a retirement program for the fireman William Reinisch was against the City Ordinance because it allowed the City to keep the interest from the money and all the Fire Department got was the actual amount the State returned, but as the department was not large and had no say so what so ever, the City maintained first check received was in the amount of \$672.00.

Because of his continuing effort to not only improve his own department but other departments in the State, William Reinisch was awarded in 1896, "Outstanding Fireman of the State". In 1897 he became Assistant Chief and Chief in



COMPANY GEIS READY FOR PARADE - The entire company finishes decorating the wagons for the July 4th parade 1902

#### SURPRISE — SURPRISE

(March 7, 1902) Firemen G. Schultz was very surprised (March 31, 1902) Firemen Howser badly injured one of his when the alarm bell rang and the address given was none eyes in a fire at 711 New Hampshire when the dwelling gave other than his own house

prompt action by his fellow fire-fighters.

Firemen Schultz was allowed to miss "Hose Reel" without a fine The Chief said he had enough mess to clean-up

#### **RELIGIOUS MEETINGS?**

(March 13, 1902) Fireman saved only the walls of the J.B. Watkins Music Hall, on the corners of Massachusets and Berkley, this afternoon after a fire almost completely destroyed the building

The upper part of the building was used as a religious meeting hall

The fire started downstairs in the back part of the building There were 24 horses in the barn, with only two escaping by a small boy trying to learn how to smoke His mother was in a religious meeting upstairs

Loss to building and contents \$10,000.00, A very expensive lesson

#### FIREMEN INJURED

way trapping firemen Howser in the debris.

His house was saved from total destruction because of It is not known how long firemen Howser will be out with his eye injury.

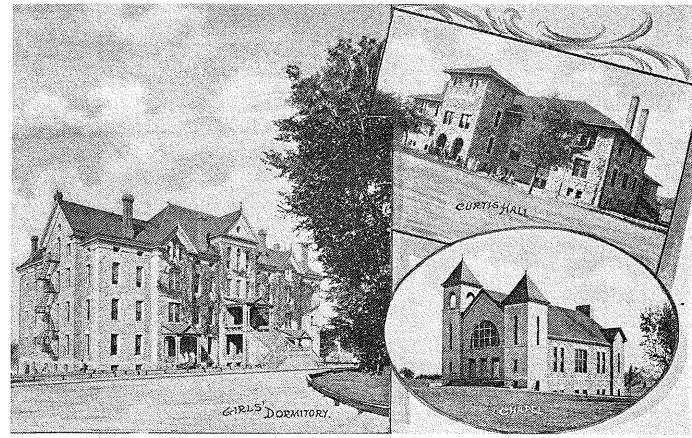
#### HASKELL FIRE?

(October 12, 1902) The company was called at 7:10 P M. by an alarm of fire at Haskell Institute As it was not the departments practice to help Haskell with fire protection because it was out of the fire district, there was some confusion as to whether we should go or not The Chief said we should go because there may be someone inside the building.

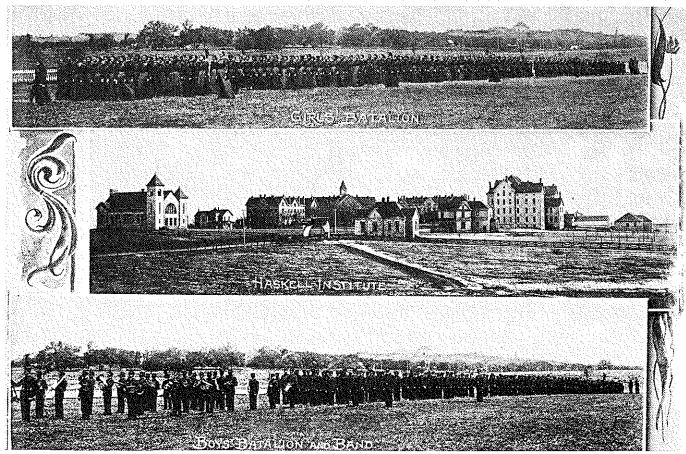
The run was made as soon as possible, but due to the long distance of the run, the department found the Main Barn completely engulfed in flames.

death. There were also some Indian boys in the building, but Haskell would not furnish the department with any information on them.

It is almost positive they were trapped in the building and were consumed by fire



HASKELL INSTITUTE



## TAKEN FROM THE FIRE DEPARTMENT RECORDS

#### OLD WINDMILL BURNS

(April 30, 1905) The alarm of fire was called at 5:00 P.M. by the burning of the Old Windmill on the West end of Warren Street.

The company was promptly on hand and made the run in good time, but upon arriving at the fire, discovered we did not have enough hose to reach the fire from the corner of Main and Warren — the closest hydrant.

Two members were sent back to the engine room after the second hose cart for more hose. After they arrived with sufficient hose, everything was connected and the water turned on, but due to the distance and quantity of hose it took to reach the fire, the water pressure was not great enough to extinguish the now roaring fire. The very best we could do was keep adjoining property from becoming involved

Cause of fire is unknown, although it is believed to have been set by parties smoking in the basement of the old mill. It is a sorrowful thing to have the old mill gone.

#### TAKEN FROM THE RECORDS IN SPENCER RESEARCH LIBRARY UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS

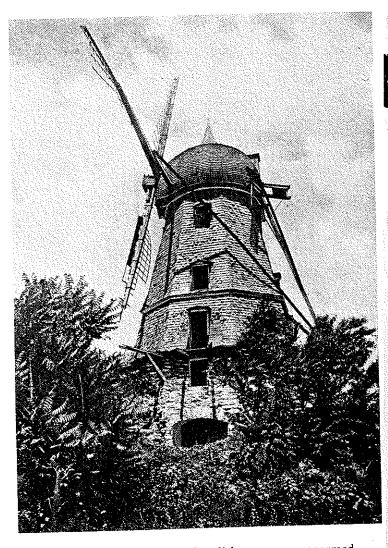
#### OLD WINDMILL A SOURCE OF POWER

The windmill was constructed in 1863, by Twelve (12) Swedish immigrants brought from Sweden just to build the mill Not only were the men imported so were all the tools and building materials to construct the mill The mill was octagonal and cone shaped, and stood five (5) stories above a basement. The foundation was Forty feet (40) across, the revolving dome and cap was Twenty Feet (20) in diameter, the width of the canvas covered arms or sails was Ten Feet (10) and Fifty Feet (50) in length

With the wind blowing at 20 miles per hour the capacity of the mill was 80 horsepower. The originial cost was \$9,700.00, not counting the importation of the Swedish immigrants

It had remained a picturesque landmark for years after it's last run as a grain grinding mill in July 1885. It stood on a high hill at the West end of Warren Street, until the fall of 1905, when it was destroyed by fire.

In 1863, when Quantrill, and his guerrillas raided Lawrence, the Swedish immigrants were working on the now almost completed mill. They heard the shooting and scream-



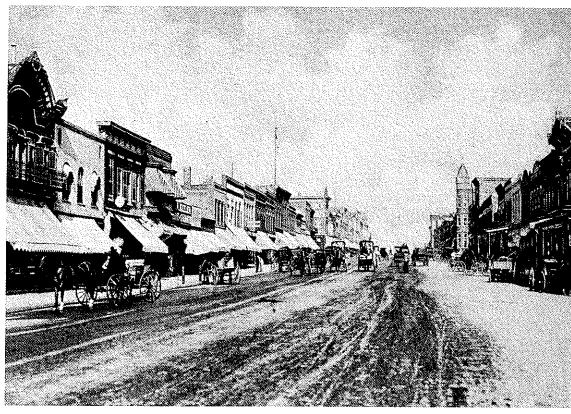
ing of men and women The Swedish men were unarmed and none could speak english so they could not find out just what was going on but knew they must reach safety All 12 men lived in the same house in the 800 block of Kentucky. As they ran to the house for safety, they passed many men and women coming in the other direction Upon reaching the house they all scrambled for the basement of their home

Some of Quantrill's men approached the house and asked a young boy if there were any men around. The boy replied sure the basement is full and they are all armed.

Either the guerrillas did not want to have a conflict with a basement full of armed men, or they just did not believe the young boy is not known, but they left without harm to the Swedish immigrants.

Quantrill's men did, however, attempt to burn the mill, but as it was not completed they only succeeded in burning the new lumber and no real harm was done to the mill

After completion of the mill in 1864, and during full operation, it employed about 75 men. By 1880 however, it has ceased to be a paying operation, and the mill was only used on a part time basis. The mill made its last run in July 1885.



WHAT NO PARKING METERS?

Massachusets Street looking North to Bridge from Warren Street. Photo courtesy Mrs P Jones

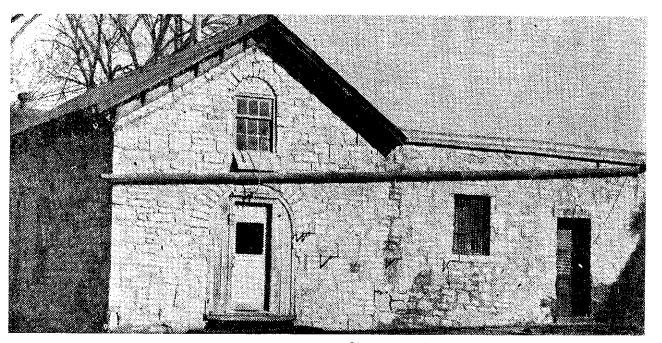


Photo courtesy Spencer Research Library University of Kansas.

HORSE BARN — Building built in 1877, used to keep Fire Department horses, hay and also used as a early-day jail. Building was in the back of the old City Hall at 8th and Henry. Building was torn down on February 1st 1950.

### MAJOR EVENTS IN EARLY 1900'S

#### TAKEN FROM THE RECORDS OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT AND SPENCER RESEARCH LIBRARY UNIVERSITY OF **KANSAS**

Lawrence Journal World

#### A TERRIBLE EXPLOSION

1905

(September 5, 1905) W.C. Brown was terribly burned and Miss Katherin Harris was dangerously injured in a fire at the Lawrence Planetarium at 3:50 P.M. caused by the explosion of gasoline. The two parties were cleaning with gasoline when it exploded

Mr. Brown was covered at once with fire, he ran out of the building a mass of flames. Miss M. Norris threw a bucket of water on Miss Harris which no doubt saved her life. Mr. Brown nearly burned to death before he could be stopped from running

The explosion was so great the building now has no windows left. If it not for the prompt action of the Fire Department there would be no building at all.

#### TROUBLE LEAVING THE STATION

(October 19, 1905) An alarm of fire was sounded about 7:40 A M by the burning of a one story house at 640 Indiana Street

The company was promptly on hand, but as we were leaving the engine house, the harness broke on the horses which resulted in a complete change, making a delay of at least twenty minutes in getting to the fire. House was completely destroyed Cause unknown, damage \$4,000 00.

#### OLD HOME WEEK

1906

(October 1st thru 6th, 1906) Old Home Week, an annual event held under the auspicies of the "Lawrence Committee," was of unusual interest to the members of the company this year on account of the "State Firemen's Tournament" being held here during the week

The City Council granted the members pay of \$3.00 per day for the entire week

The Chief, with assistance of the whole company, devoted their entire time to entertaining the visiting firemen.

During the week the company was called out to South Park to a fire in a pile of boxes which was to be used as a fire for an exibition run by the Lawrence Fire Department.

The following evening the company made the run in the remarkable short time of two minutes and twenty seconds till the water was put on the fire.

During the week the company had one other team that made a creditable display, that being Ottawa Kansas. There were visiting firemen from nearly all parts of the State, and they were royally entertained by the company.

#### HASKELL WANTS FIRE PROTECTION

1907

(August 1, 1907) Haskell made arrangements with the Mayor and City Council today for permanent fire protecttion from the Head Center Hose Company.

#### A NEW TEAM

(August 12, 1907) The company received a new team of horses today. Cost \$450 00. The new team will be assigned to the Hook and Ladder Wagon.

#### CHIEF WANTS NEW BUGGY

1907

(December 30, 1907) A special meeting was called today all members present All members were asked about getting the Chief a new buggy.

The Chief had requested the buggy be purchased from City funds but was refused by the City Council The Chief would like to buy the new buggy from funds received from the "Annual Ball"

The membership voted to wait and see if there were going to be enough funds collected from the ball to purchase a buggy. If not each member would have to share equally in what ever other cost involved.

#### MEETING ROOM

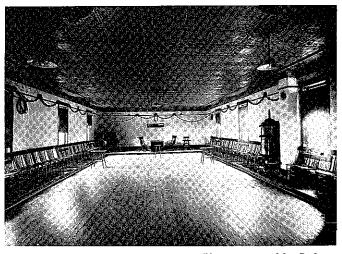


Photo courtesy Mrs P. Jones

This room was used for all monthly meetings of the Headquarters Hose Company, also all fund raising dinners and a few of the first annual balls

A BILL FOR REPAIRS ON THE HOOK AND LADDER

#### FIRST CAR FIRE

1910

(September 17, 1910) The company was called out at 4:35 PM by an alarm of fire from 1201 Ohio Street.

The company was promptly on hand and found the fire to be that of a automobile belonging to Doctor H.T. Jones

As there were only a few cars in town, this was their first automobile fire and they did not know just what procedures were required in putting out an automobile fire

The company finally had the fire out, but not before the car was total destroyed. Cause - gasoline leaking on the engine Loss \$700 00.

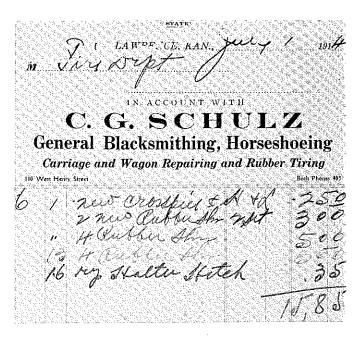




Photo courtsy P. Ingles

#### LAWRENCE FIRE DEPARTMENTS HOOK AND LADDER --- 1914

HOOK AND LADDER CREW — From Left to Right (Driver) Paul Ingles, (Captain) Clarence Sutton on seat, — on running board Left to Right Bill Schulmeyer, Fred Weiman, Fred Harris, Ed Froliger Horses Johnnie on right and George on left.

Johnnie and George were the very last teams sold by the Fire Department.

#### FIRE DEPARTMENT BECOMES MOTORIZED

After many, many months of continuous persuasion and many requests from Chief W. Reinisch of the Lawrence Fire Department, the Mayor and City Council agree to the purchase of a modern motorized Fire Truck. The truck is equipped with two 35 gallon chemical tanks and hoses specifically designed for the use in fighting fires.

The truck will be ordered from the White Motor Company, of Kansas City Missouri. The cost of the modern chemical truck will be \$5,000 00

The money was taken from the Firemans Relief Fund loaned to the City for the purpose of purchasing the motorized truck

The City promised to pay the department back when the taxes were collected at the end of the year

From all indications in the fire departments records, actual cash was not paid back, instead the City furnished the fire department City Improvement bonds in the amount of \$5,000 00

#### DEPARTMENTS REQUEST FOR FULL PAY

#### \_∕⊚HEADQUARIERS ⊚\\_ Lawrence Fire Department

W F REINISCH Chief

Lawrence Kansas, Ittly 24 1915

The Thon Mayor of Commissionary

Oity of Lawrence

There by hand you the following late

for expenses of Fin Aleps for ensuring gras, providing the Dept.

is put on a full fair Basic

Salary of Chief 120000

Class "108000"

Fair new 6720.00

\$ paid new 6720.00

\*timated ress

180,00

360.00 1000 Fin Hore 100000

Cliefo car Jera 40.00

#### FROM THE LAWRENCE JOURNAL WORLD

AUGUST 1ST 1915

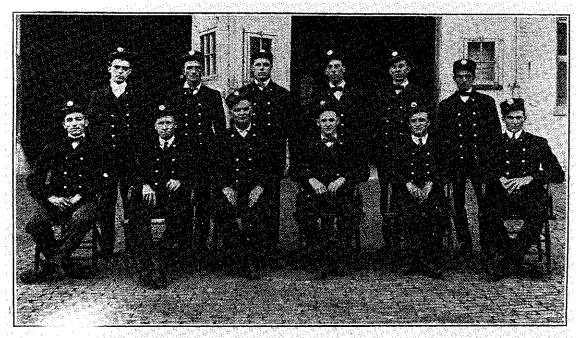
Chief W. Reinisch, finally gets his way with City Council - Lawrence has a fully paid Fire Depart-

Chief W Reinisch after requesting every year since 1902 -- Now has a first class department.

Today the City Council voted unanimously to have a fully paid fire department. I believe the City is overdue in recognizing the fact we were as a city too large for a volunteer department

The department has in the past served the City outstandingly I am sure this change will only improve the department

#### CITY'S FIRST FULLY PAID DEPARTMENT



CITY FIREMEN AT HEADQUARTERS

ding from left to right: Standing—Fred Harris, Ed. Froliger,
Charles Prosser, Lawrence Roller, Fred Wieman, Wm. Shumyer. Sitting—
Piul Ingels, H. R. Wagner, Chief Wm. F. Reinisch, Assistant Chief Ralph
Lawrence, Clarence Sutton, J. P. Jennings.

Photo courtesy Spencer Research Library University of Kansas (Kansas Collection)

#### FIRE DEPARTMENT GET'S SECOND MOTORIZED TRUCK

OCTOBER 10, 1916

Council to purchase a 500 gallon pumper truck

The City Councilmen have spent one week in Kansas City, watching the Kansas City Fire Department demonstrate their 500 gallon pumper truck, and it was their decision to purchase one for Lawrence

The truck will be purchased from the White Motor Company of Cleveland Ohio, and the cost of the pumper will be \$6,400 00

#### HORSES ARE SOLD

Fire Department will sell all their horses except for the team assigned to the Hook and Ladder

Almost everyone will want to bid on the two horses Chief W. Reinisch has been using for the Chief's buggy — Rock and Roudy

All horses will be sold to the high bidder



54

### TAKEN FROM THE FIRE DEPARTMENT RECORDS

#### SOME OF THE LARGER FIRES FROM 1915 - 1918

<u>DATE</u> 1-8-15 1-11-15 2-6-15	TIME 2:50 P.M. 3:40 A M 4:15 A M	LOCATION West Winthrop St. (Res) Massachusets St. (Snegass Furniture Store) Massachusets St. (Royal Cafe) Massachusets St. (Merchants National Bank)  \$25,000.00
2-11-15 2-13-15 3-25-15 4-26-15 6-29-15 12-5-15	1:30 P.M. 1:00 A.M 2:32 A.M 4:50 A.M 6:25 P.M. 3:45 P.M.	Massachusets St. (Merchants National Bank)\$25,000.00Haskell Grounds (Haskell Institute 2-Bldgs)\$20,000.00Massachusets St. (Grand Theater)\$10,000.00Massachusets St. (Varsity Theater)\$3,000.0015th Delaware St. (Old School House)\$5,000.00830 Conn (Res)Child Burnedto Death
2-27-16 6-6-16 7-28-16 8-29-16 11-15-16 2-24-17 5-9-18	1:00 P M 0:55 P M 5:00 P M 2:30 A.M 1:15 A.M 8:30 P.M 10:40 P.M	Massachusets St (Round Corner Drugs)\$ 1,000.00Massachusets St (Lumber Yard)\$ 8,000.00Conn (Lawrence Canning Factory)\$70,000.00Massachusets St (Peerless Garage)\$16,500.00Vermont St (Congregational Church)\$ 2,000.00Conn (Colored Masonic Lodge)\$12,000.00Kansas University (Flower Shop)\$25,000,00

#### NUMBER OF FIRES BY MONTH 1915 — 1918

MONIH	1915	1916	1917	1918
JAN	8		8	45
FEB	6 .	4		17
MAR	6 .			
APR	7		<b>9</b>	
MAY	. 3		6	
JUN	7		7	7
JUL	2		· ·	4
AUG	. 4	8	. The second $oldsymbol{1}$ and $oldsymbol{1}$ and $oldsymbol{1}$	9
SEP	2	6		4
OCT	.4	3	8	
NOV	. 10			
BBC		<u>9</u>		
ΤΟΓΑL	66			133

#### TAKEN FROM THE FIRE DEPARTMENT RECORDS

#### LAWRENCE FIRE DEPARTMENT INVENTORY — 1917

#### **HEADQUARTERS** LAWRENCE FIRE DEPARTMENT

W. F. REINISCH, CHIEF

LAWRENCE, KANSAS, Mar. 5,

NO. .-

1--Chem. Car, 2 35-Gal. Tanks
2--3-Gal. Extinguishers
1--Set Weed Chains
1-- " Chains, "Truck Special"
1--Pyrene Fire Extinguisher
150--Ft., Chem. Hose, Poor
1--Grether "Fire Chief" Searchlight
1--Extra Tire, 37 x 5

1 -- Fire Chief's Car 1--Hood Cover 2--Babcock Fire Extinguishers 1--Grether "Fire Chief" Searchlight
1--Pyrene Fire Extinguisher
1--Extra Tire, 35 x 4 1/2

我的女孩子,我们会说到我们的女孩的女孩女孩子的女孩女孩女孩子的女孩女孩子的女孩女孩子的女孩女孩子,不知道说

#### Miscellaneous

```
2000 Ft. 2 1/2 in. Fire Hose--Good
1050 " " Poor
 600 "
  1--Rotary Gong
   3--Carboys Sul. Acid
2--Play Pipes
   1--Eastman Nozzle Holder
1 1/2-Bbl. Bi-Carbonate Soda
   2--Scoop Shovels
2--Barn Forks
  28--4 oz. Babcock Bottles
 100--Gal. Gasoline
 1/2--Ton Hay
  75 -- Ft. Rubber Station Hose
   1--Large Lungmotor
   1--Infant
    5--Qts. Pyrene
   5--Chamois, Old
   4-"" , New
2--Sponges, "
2--Feather Dusters, New
    1--Wringer
   5--Pkgs Gold Dust
32-Tower Hose Hangers
    36-Bars. Saymans Soap
   13-Tubes, Lungmotor Oxygen Compound
```

## **DECEMBER 31, 1920**

## ANNUAL REPORT OF THE FIRE CHIEF

To the Mayor and City Council

Gentlemen:

I have the honor to herewith submit the Annual Report of the Fire Department for the year ending December 31, 1920.

This being my nineteenth year as Chief of the Lawrence Fire Department. I would like to take this time to thank the Mayor and the City Council, for the effort and time they have given to the Fire Department and also their fine cooperation.

It is my desire to make this department the very best Fire Department not only in the state but in the country.

With the accession of the motorized chemical car and pumpers there is no reason why this department can not compete with any Fire Department in the state.

I would like to plead with the Mayor and the City Council to seriously look into the matter of a new station to be located in the South portion of the city

I am also submitting the attached petition. I am sure the Mayor and the City Council will look into this petition and grant the membership the salary increase they so deserving require as indicated in the petition.

I would also like to invite the Mayor and all Council members to attend the Annual Ball, and supper. This is something the entire membership look forward to each year.

Yours,

S. Reinisch Chief Lawrence Fire Department

## ANNUAL REPORT

#### APPARATUS IN SERVICE

Automobile Combination Chemical and Hose Automobile Combination Pump and Hose Automobile Aerial Truck Chief's Car	1 2 1 1
HOSE IN SERVICE	
2 ½ Inch Hose       5,000 F         ¾ Inch Hose       1,300 F         Old Hose       3,000 F	t.
Assorted Station Supplies	

## STATISTICS OF WORK PERFORMED BY THE DEPARTMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 1920.

Total Number of Feet of Hose Laid	. 20,300 Ft.
Total Number of Hours and Minutes Pumpe	rs Used 102:45
Total Number of Feet Ladders Raised	2,864 Ft.
Total Number Gallons of Chemical Used	2,622
Total Number Miles Traveled in Route to	Alarms 134
Total Number of False Alarms	45
Total Number of Fire Alarms	150
Total Amount of Fire Loss	\$65,514 00
Total Number of Alarms	195

## PETITION TO THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAWRENCE KANSAS

Gentlemen

The undersigned Committee, representing the entire membership of the Fire Department of the City of Lawrence, respectfully represents and shows to your honorable that the salaries now paid to the firemen in this city are insufficient to enable them to maintain their families properly, and to pay their just debts. That this situation is due to the fact that the cost of the necessities of life have increased materially, and are still increasing, since the scale of salaries now in force was adopted.

The committee further respectfully calls your attention to the fact the salaries now paid to the firemen in the City of

Lawrence are considerably lower than the salaries paid to firemen in every other city of its class.

The committee, therefore, earnestly petitions your honorable to grant an increase in salary to the membership of the Fire Department, in the amount of Twenty Five Dollars (\$25.00) per month for each member of the department, effective the first day of January 1921. We also ask that an ordinanace providing for such increases in salary be adopted Respectfully submitted this 31st day of December 1920.

COMMITTEE Lawrence Fire Department



View of old City Hall and Fire Department about October

#### TAKEN FROM THE FIRE DEPARTMENT RECORDS

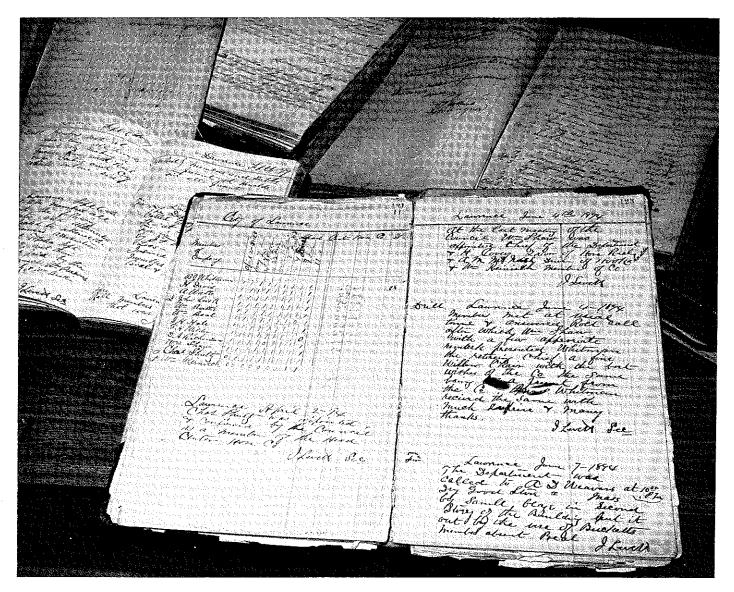
#### SOME OF THE IMPORTANT EVENTS IN 1922

January 14, 1922 — Alarm was rang at 7:40 P.M. a fire in May 14, 1922 — House at 1208 Mississippi St., the Kansas the basement of the Barber Shop at 927 Mass St. Before we University Girls Cooperative Total Loss 26,000 00 could get the fire under control a total of Ten (10) businesses were involved. HOUKS BARBER SHOP, BELLS October 19, 1922 — The Fire Department and City Offices MUSIC STORE, STOFFER DRUGS, WARDS FLOW-ER SHOP, WELCH AND WELCH CHIROPRAC-TORS, DOCTOR TIBBETS, VOGT'S, DOCTOR GIF-FORD, MRS. WAGGHAN SHOP, AND BITTIE FARM December 22, 1922 — Westminister Assoc for Bibical ASSOC Total Loss \$62,000.00.

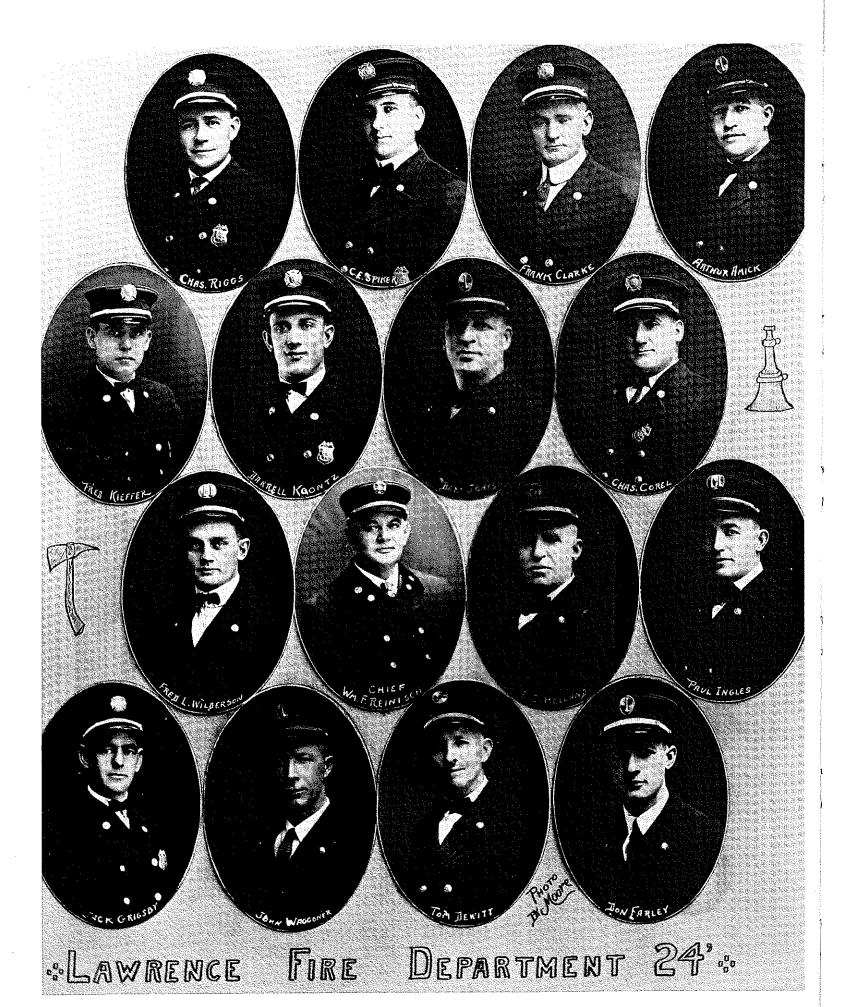
fire due to spontaneous combustion in the coal bin Total Loss — Lot of Embarrassment and \$7,500.00

Study. 1221 Oread Ave. University of Kansas. Total Loss \$10,800.00.

December 31, 1922 — Houses 1404, 1406 and 1408 Tenn St All three (3) houses were totally in flames by the time the department arrived Arson suspected. Total Loss \$35,000.00



Just a few of the old hand written records that helped in complining this book. Most of the records are in quill pen All the old records will be perserved in the Kansas University Spencer Library



#### RULES AND REGULATIONS

#### GOVERNING

#### THE LAWRENCE FIRE DEPARTMENT

#### LAWRENCE, KANSAS

These Rules and Regulations are not intended to cover every circumstance that may arise in the discharge of duty for some things must necessarily be left to the intelligence and discretion of individuals.

RULE 1. The Chemical Engine shall answer all alarms in the City Limits except Haskell Institute or when ordered not to respond by the Chief or other officer in charge.

RULE 2. The Number I car shall respond to all alarms, except Haskell Institute or alarms outside of corporate limits, unless ordered by officer in charge.

RULE 3, Number II car will answer all alarms to Haskell Institute, every call in the Fire Limits, and the territory from Eleventh to Seventeenth Street south and west to City Limits, Officer in charge shall decide whether to answer alarms outside of City, in case of bad wind or the balance of the Department being out at another fire.

RUIE 4. Aerial truck must only answer alarms on its Running Schedule, as posted in Engine House. They shall respond to all school houses, hospitals, Old Folk's Home, all depots, and all manufacturing places and everything in the Fire Limits.

RUIE  $5_{\circ}$  Fire apparatus must not leave scene of fire without orders from officer in charge.

RULE 6. The Chief shall be the commanding officer in charge at any fire or at station. Captains on platoons will be held responsible for their platoons.

RUIE 7. Members off duty on hearing alarm must make themselves acquainted as to location of fire, and if in Business District must respond. If not needed they will be excused at once. Captains of off platoons must see that there is not more than three men out of the City at one time. They can make their arrangements the day before so that this will not work any hardship on the individual members.

RULE 8. The membership will be divided into two platoons of eight men each. The working hours will be as follows: The Number One platoon will be expected to be at the Station five minutes before 7 A.M. Their tour of duty will start at 7 A.M. sharp and member will be on continuous duty until 6 P.M. The Number Iwo platoon will be at Station five minutes before 6 P.M. to be ready to relieve the Number One platoon. This will alternate every two weeks. The change days will be the first day of the month and the sixteenth day of the month. The number Iwo platoon will go off duty at 7 A.M. and then return for duty on change days at 12 M. when Number One platoon will take shift until 6 P.M. In case of a working fire at the change hour, it shall be the duty of the officer in charge of the relieving shift to call the roll in quarters of company at the change hour, then proceed to the fire without delay with platoon and report for duty to officer in charge.

RULE 9. Any member of the off shift failing to report for duty at the time specified shall be fined one day's pay for the first offense; for the second, five day's pay; and the third time will cause dismissal from the service unless a very valid excuse can be offered. Members on duty shall not leave premises of station. Members shall not be allowed in any other member's place on opposite shift unless so ordered by the Chief or other officer in charge.

RULE 10. Members on shift must notify Chief or captain in charge if they are leaving the City. Members must keep in truch with the Department at all times by telephone or otherwise.

RULE 11. An annual vacation of fourteen (14) days will be granted to all members having served one year on the Department.

RULE 12. Day shift coming on duty must clean all bright work on apparatus every morning. Drivers must clean motors from all grease every morning and all other brass and nickel must be polished every morning. In case of a fire at night when muddy, the night shift must wash the apparatus as soon as hose has been taken care of.

RULE 13. Captains will be held responsible for the condition of hose. They must see that there is no acid spilled on same, and in filling acid receptacles the greatest care must be used that there is no acid spilled around floor where hose is being loaded into trucks.

RULE 14. Members must stay on telephone watch, stay at desk and not leave same unless calling some other member to relieve them in case of necessity, Any man caught asleep on watch will be dishharged at once without the formality of a hearing.

RULE 15. At fires members must prevent in every way possible any excessive damage to buildings or their contents by water or otherwise, and all persons having no right therein, shall be excluded from within buildings or endangered thereby, while the Department has charge of the premises.

RULE 16. When taking up hose lines, hose must not be dragged over brick pavements, because of excessive damage to hose jacket and couplings. After hose has been drained it must be carried to apparatus.

RULE 17. Captains must protect hose being laid across Railroad tracks by sending flagmen out to stop trains.

RULE 18. If nozzles are found to be leaking it must be called to the attention of the officer in charge, as soon as Department returns to quarters.

RULE 19. Drivers must use all speed possible in reaching a fire consistent with safety, but always bearing in mind that smashed up piece of Fire apparatus does not put out fires. In this connection, if on the road to a fire at night there is a red danger lamp shown, apparatus must slow down and investigate whether the road is clear and safe for apparatus and men.

RULE 2C. Members must pay their just debts promptly, and not engage in any other occupation for gain while in the employ of the City.

RULE 21. No intoxicating beverages shall be brought into Fire Station, kept or drunk in or about the premises, and any member who, while in uniform or about the premises of the Department becomes intoxicated, or absents himself from duty because of drink, or reports for duty under the influence of liquor, shall hold himself liable for discharge from the Department.

RULE 22. Card playing for anything of value, or gambling in any form within any Station or by members of the Fire Department is forbidden.

RUIE 23. No officer or member of the Department shall attend any political meetings, or take any part in any election, other than to cast his vote.

RULE 24. Visitors must be received courteously, and all proper attention shown them. Visitors will not be allowed within sleeping rooms at night after any members have retired, except by the authority of the officer in charge.

RUIE 25. Children unattended must not be allowed to congregate within or about the station

RULE 26. On Sundays and at night the station must be kept quiet, on Sunday no mechanical work will be done within or about the quarters except such as the emergencies of the Fire service may absolutely necessitate for public safety.

RUIE 27. Members when in front of quarters shall not cause or permit the sidewalk to be obstructed to persons passing, by chairs or otherwise, and will not make any comment concerning any one passing that could in any manner cause offense. There must be no lounging or sleeping in apparatus seats.

RULE 28. Company quarters will be neatly swept or mopped, all wood work, fixtures, and furniture dusted, windows washed, and everything put in a neat and cleanly condition for the day. This must be the first thing that the day platoon does.

RULE 29. The night platoon will see that their beds are made before they go off duty in the morning. No sleeping shall be allowed in beds or otherwise about the cuarters between the hours of six o'clock A.M and nine o'clock P.M

RULE 30. All members of the Department shall keep themselves posted correctly as to location of Fire hydrants and streets in the city; also, boundary lines of the City limits.

RULE 31. Captains of platoons will see that men learn the location of Fire hydrants, teach them, and ask the location of fire plugs.

Im Therende

Approved:

Polist Rankin

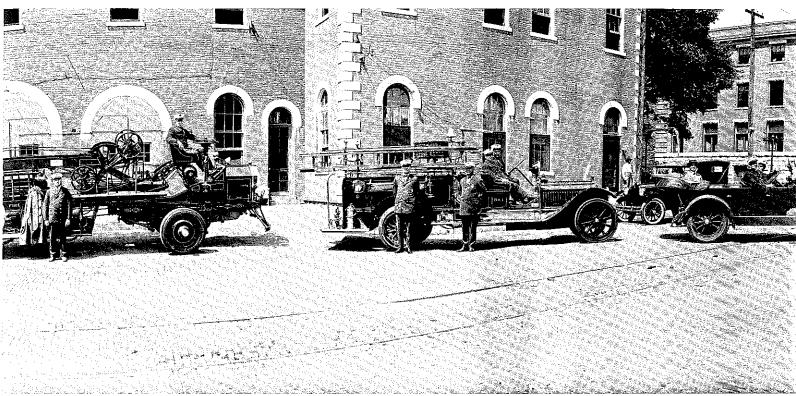
## LAWRENCE FIRE



#### **STATISTICS**

Total Number of Feet Ladders Raised	1,163 Ft
Total Number of Feet Hose Laid	21,700 Ft
Total Number of Hours and Minutes Pumpers Used	150:30
Total Number of Gallons Chemical Used	2,260 Gal
Total Number of Miles Driven to Alarms	260
Total Number of Automotive Fires	20
Total Number of False Alarms	10
Total Number of Alarms Answered	156
Total Loss for the Year 1925	\$50,650.00

## **DEPARMENT**



## TAKEN FROM THE FIRE DEPARTMENT RECORDS

#### **IMPORTANT FIRES IN 1925**

January 3, 1925 — The Beta Gamma Pi house at 1200 Louisiana St Total Loss \$25,000 00.

January 7, 1925 — The Douglas County Shops at 1024 Mass St. Totally destroyed from a gasoline explosion Total Loss \$40,000 00.

January 20, 1925 — Residence belonging to Prof Rice at 1304 Ohio St While unloading coal in the basement a piece of coal broke a gas line which resulted in the house exploding completely. The driver of the coal truck was hospitalized for two (2) weeks. Total Loss \$15,000 00.

May 24, 1925 — Alpha Delta Chi house at 1245 Louisiana St. total Loss \$20,000.00

#### TAKEN FROM THE JOURNAL WORLD

**IMPORTANTS IN 1925** 

#### FIRE TRUCK HAS COLLISION

May 2, 1925 — The City Fire Department Chemical Truck and a Chevrolet Touring car driven by Harlin Conrad of Parker Kansas, collided at 8th and Kentucky, about 8:30 P.M. The Fire Department was out on a false alarm call at 1424 Kentucky, when the collision took place both car and truck will require extensive repair

#### FIRE DEPARTMENT SPONSORS CARNIVAL

The special representative of the ISLER SHOWS arrived in Lawrence today and immediately started a publicity campaign for the carnival. The appearance of the carnival company here will be under the auspices of the Fire Department and for the benefit of the Fire Department Relief Fund. Some of the head-liners for the show are, a complete wild animal act even a gorilla, two (2) enormous snakes, the Rastus Jones Dixieland Minstrels, and the world famous Oscar Larson and Babette Riders do their death-defying stunts in the motordome.

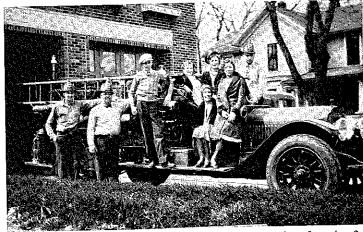
## LAWRENCE FIRE DEPARTMENT

## GETS SECOND STATION

New Station to be in South Lawrence



Workman trying their best to have station open by November 15, 1928.



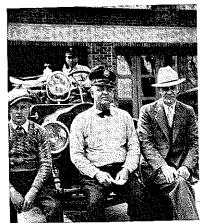


## Personnel Assigned

The new station will have one pumper assigned immediately with a crew of three men.

Captain Bert Jones will be in charge of the new station. Assigned to work with Capt Jones will be Firemen Charles Beebe and Firemen Jim Dresser.

All photo's courtesy Mrs B. Jones



1930

FROM FIRE DEPARTMENT RECORDS AND RECORDS IN WATSON LIBRARY UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS

## FIRE TAKES FRATERNAL AID **BUILDING**



### FIREMEN CHECK FLAMES AT SECOND FLOOR — MUCH WATER **DAMAGE**

Fire, cause unknown, today destroyed the second and third Loss caused by the blaze was not estimated as officials of but blackened walls, empty windows and charred office fire. All papers were kept in the vaults or in fireproof cases. equipment and woodwork, the latter lodged on the second floor which did not give way

caused more by water and smoke than by flames. Efforts of were extinguished with water from the ladder truck. the firemen to put out the blaze on the second floor, prevented the fire from coming down to the first floor

stories of the Fraternal Aid Union building, at 8th and the Union were awaiting an opportunity to enter the build-Vermont street, leaving nothing of those stories and the roof ing to see if their vaults or papers had been damaged by the

Firemen were busy at intervals keeping other buildings from catching fire from flying sparks. The roof of the Old City The first floor remained intact and damage there was Hall building and the sign of the Chamber of Commerce





### FIRE TAKES UPPER STORIES OF F.A.U.

Blaze starting in F.A.U. Hall is discovered about 7 A.M.

#### PARTY LAST NIGHT

The cause of the fire could not be determined. The annual When it became apparent that the fire could not be extindance of the Miami Triad composed of the Beta Theta Pi, Phi Delta Theta, and Sigma Chi, fraternities were held in the building last night. Workmen were also busy installing a new vault door in the basement but had left before 6 o'clock. J. Frank Davis, janitor, who closed up the building last night about 2 o'clock this morning after making a check up. He noticed nothing out of the ordinary. No lights were on at the west end of the dance floor and no electricity was used there

#### Gave First Alarm

Bob Williams, janitor at Muzzey's cafe, was passing the building about 7 o'clock this morning when he noticed smoke coming out of the top on the west side. He informed the police department who in turn notified the firemen.

Firemen from Number 1 station went to the top floor and found the stairways filled with smoke They were unable to locate the blaze. Smoke began pouring out of the building in heavy volume followed by the blaze breaking out. The fire whistle at the water department was blown, calling in the off duty shift

guished on the third floor, the efforts of the firemen were directed forward preventing the complete destruction of the building. Streams of water played thru the windows of the second floor were effective in stopping the fire at that level. This result was a surprise to many on lookers to whom it appeared that the fire could not be checked until the entire structure was destroyed

#### Walls May Be Unsafe

Damage on the first floor was confined to that done by water, Fire Chief William Reinisch said. Water was being pumped out of the cellar of the building this afternoon by the pumper trucks.

Chief Reinisch urges that every one keep away from the building The condition of the walls is unknown but there is danger from loose bricks and other debris. A scaffolding was to be erected around the upper part of the walls that are a



# SOME OF THE LARGER FIRES AND YEAR END STATISTICS OF 1930

Taken from Fire Department Records and Records in Watson Library University of Kansas.

### CATHOLIC PARSONAGE BURNS

January 22, the Catholic parsonage is completely destroyed by fire that started in the basement of the parsonage at 3:50 this morning. Firemen fought the blaze for four hours before putting it out.

Two (2) firemen were injuried seriously in the blaze Capt E. J. Holland and Firemen C. Parker were hospitalized from severe cuts and possible broken bones Total Loss \$10,000.00.

#### FRATERNAL AID UNION BURNS

February 8, the Fraternal Aid Union burned today at least the top two floors were totally destroyed and the third damaged by water and smoke Loss \$79,132.00

### DICKINSON THEATER BURNS

July 12, the Dickinson Theater burned, cause of the fire is unknown The stage, and stage equipment, part of the talking picture mechanism, and wiring and lighting equipment were completely destroyed The seats and lobbies were da-\$40,000 00 maged by smoke and water Loss

#### Statistics for 1930

Total Number of Feet Ladders Raised 1,883 27,400 Total Number of Feet Hose Laid Total Number of Miles Driven to Alarms

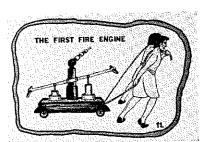
268.5

Total Number of Hours and Minutes Pumpers 190:30 Used

Total Number of Alarms in 1930 221

Total Fire Loss for 1930

\$177,446.07



### 1932

### WILLIAM F. REINISCH FIRE CHIEF, RESIGNS AFTER 38 YEARS ON THE **DEPARTMENT**

William F Reinisch, veteran chief of the Lawrence fire department, today tendered his resignation to Mayor W.C. Ellis, bringing to a close nearly 40 years of service during which time he established an enviable record.

In a letter addressed to the Mayor and Commissioners Chief Reinisch ascribed ill health as the cause of his retirement. He has been off duty for the past weeks and following treatment in a Kansas City clinic was confined to his home for a time

Mayor Ellis said today that a successor to Chief Reinisch has not been chosen. For the time being, he said E.J. Holland, assistant chief, will be in charge of the department

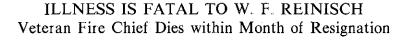
Reinisch has been active in the growth fires in a buggy drawn by a fleet horse. South Lawrence

of the department and has seen motor- During his regime many improvements ized equipment replace the horse drawn have been made. In 1927, the double meant getting soaked to the skin and vehicles of the early days. Years ago he platoon system was adopted and a few was a familiar figure as he hurried to years ago station number 2 was built in guess some of that is showing up now

The best motorized equipment has been added and today Lawrence has one of the best fire departments in the state and the city benefits thru reduced losses and lowered insurance rates.

The last official act of Chief Reinisch was to accept the new 750-gallon pumper delivered this week which he checked in vesterday.

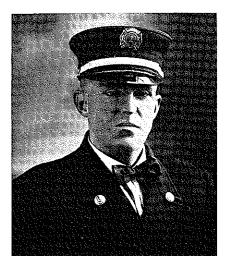
Chief Reinisch sat in his office this afternoon reminisced as he cleaned out his desk to make way for his successor "You don't know what it means to me to do this, he said," sadly, "after so many years. But I realize that my health will not permit me to go on "These youngsters who fight fires now do not realize what it meant in the old days. We had no warm clothing, no rubber suits to keep us dry and no equipment with which to do much. If we got a hot one it staying with it, winter or summer. "I that I'm getting old "



March 21, 1932 death early today claimed William F. Reinisch, 62 years old, who retired March 1, after nearly 40 years service with the Lawrence Fire Department. His death occured at Memorial Hospital at 1:30 o'clock and was caused by Bright's Disease

### E. J. HOLLAND APPOINTED CHIEF MARCH 1, 1932

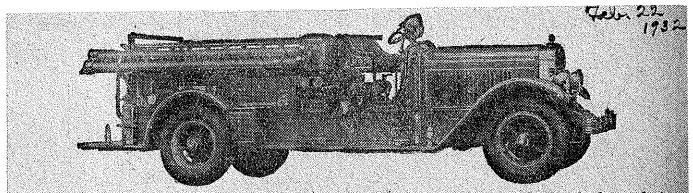
Today the Mayor appointed E. J. Holland Chief to replace W.F. Reinisch Chief Holland has been on the department for 28 years and has served as assistant chief for the last 5 years.



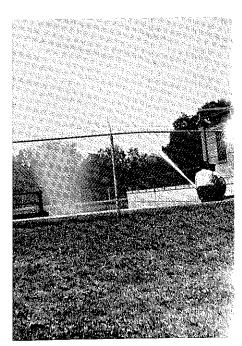
#### CHIEF E. J. HOLLAND DIES MAY 12, 1932

Fire Department has lost two chief's in less four months. Chief Holland died from a massive heart attack. Chief Holland was only appointed chief March 1, this year. He has served the department for 28 years. His death is a great loss to the city.

### FIRE DEPARTMENT'S NEW PUMPER IS GIVEN TEST TODAY



The new fire-fighter is known as an American La France Spartan and embodies the latest features in fire fighting design. Motive power for high speed thru the streets and for pumping service at the cene of fires is provided by a 120 horsepower engine.

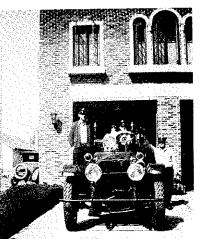


The new pumper recently purchased for the fire department was tested out at the city water plant for about three and a half hours today. City officials present were Mayor W.C. Ellis, Commissioners G.T. Wetzel and J.L. Constant, Fire Chief Ingles and the American LaFrance Company representative.

### SHOOTS STREAM 200 FEET

With the tip which was used on the nozzle this morning a heavy stream of water can be directed for 200 feet on the horizon. Any size standard tips, from 1 inch in diameter up, can be used on the nozzle.

Left Center — Testing of Nozzles Far Left Lower — Old #1 Pumper sent to No. 2 station. Center Lower — Last run for Chemical Car. Far Right Lower Crew at Number one station taking a break.





### PAUL INGLES TAKES COMMAND

Today the Mayor W.C. Ellis, appointed Paul Ingles Chief, of the Lawrence Fire Department. This is a landmark for the city to have three chief's in the same year.

Paul Ingles said "although I am greatly saddened by the loss of two of my best friends both of which I have worked with since the early 1900's I am happy about the appointment."

Chief Ingles also said he will continue to strive to make the Lawrence Fire Department the best in the state.



#### HARD TIMES FORCES THE CITY TO CUT WAGES

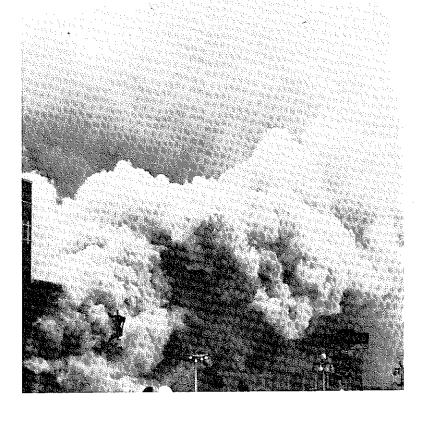
Salaries of all city employees were cut today by the Mayor and City Commission. In the meeting last night it was their decision to cut wages instead of letting people go. The fire department personnel will take a 15% cut in their wages the new pay scale is as follows:

CHIEF
SENIOR CAPTS
JUNIOR CAPTS
FIRST CLASS FIREMEN
SECOND CLASS FIREMEN

\$150 00 \$125 00 \$110 00 \$105 00 \$100.00

# BLAZE DESTROYS BELL'S MUSIC **STORE**

Front of Bell's Music Store

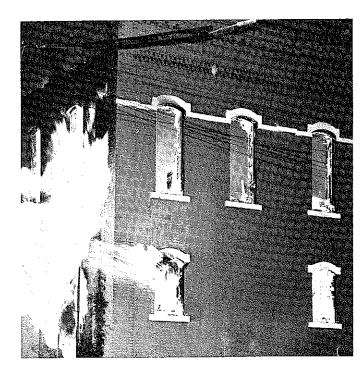


\$18,000.00 **DAMAGE** 

Employee Burned

Mr. Hampton was burned by fire that was coming thru the elevator shaft before he could escape thru the rear of

Rear of Bell's Music Store



Bell's Music Store was at this location for 23 Years

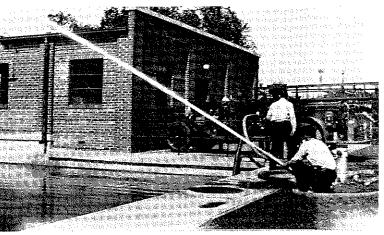
### 1935

### PAUL BECOMES CHIEF OF CHIEFS

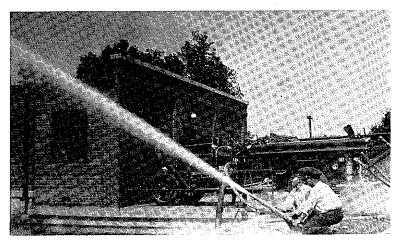


Paul Ingels, Lawrence fire chief, shown above, was elected president of the Kansas Fire Chiefs' association at Hutchinson last night. Ingels has been chief of the Lawrence department for five years and has been a member of the department for 25 years.

# YEARLY TESTING OF THE PUMPERS



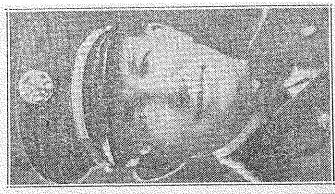
### TESTING CONDUCTED AT WATER WORKS







# Holying Santa Claus g



CHIEF PAUL INGELS

The Lawrence firemen, who have been repairing broken toys for the past several years, report they are receiving a large number of toys this year, considering the fact that there is still some time left before Christmas. The toys, secured that denotion from the beople of Lawrence, are repaired by the firemen and given a new coat of paint. The paint is furnished by Lawrence

and given a new cost of paint. The paint is furnished by Lawrence merchants.

Paul Ingels, fire chief; said this morning that the receipt of broise toys so far has been gratifying but that the firemen could handle many more gifts before Cluistuna. An almost unlimited number of the repaired toys, which are given the repaired toys, which are given the redy children who cannot have Christmas otherwise, can be diposed of. For the most part the toys come from homes in Lawrence where the children has grown tired of them. Every year however, many toys are received from stores where they have been broken in stock.

### LAWRENCE FIRE DEPARTMENT GETS NEW PUMPER



Photos courtesy P Ingles

### LAWRENCE IS HOST TO KANSAS STATE FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION



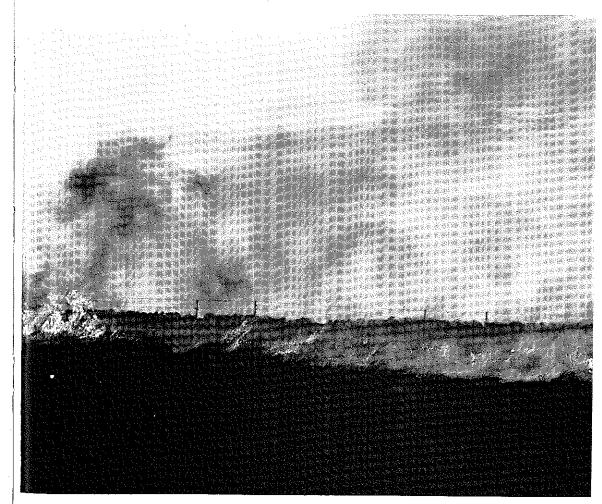
### NEW FIRE TRUCK SEES



N

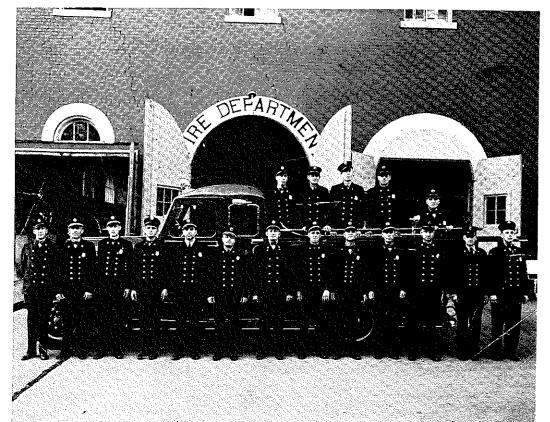
Scout used for Fire P. Willi Hensley Miller (C. Front — C. Bruba

### **ACTION IN MANY WAYS**



Photo's courtesy D.L. McCleery

Left to Right on rear of truck—P. Williamson, C. Beebe, H. Hensley A. Stemmerman, E. Miller (Capt) Left to Right in Front—F. Brown, M. Pence, C. Brubaker, K. Pence, A. Anderson, R. Gordon, P. Ingles (Chief) J. Miller (Capt) C. Parker (Capt), F. Kieffer (Capt), J. Dresser, F. Clark, B. Swain





ART STEMMERMAN



M.E. PENCE



KENNETH PENCE



FOY BROWN



JIM DRESSER



FRANK CLARK



**BUD SWAIN** 



J. McMILLEN

FIRE DEPARTMENT



H. HENSLEY



CHARLES BEEBE



PAUL WILLIAMSON



RAY GORDON



A. ANDERSON



C. BRUBAKER



ED MILLER



FRED KIEFFER (Capt)



C. R. PARKER (Capt)

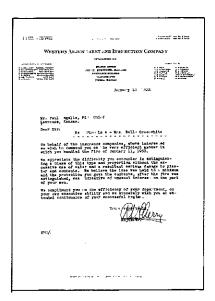


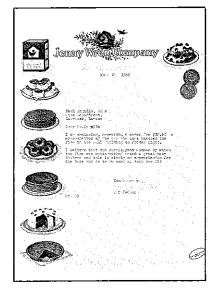
JOHN MILLER (Capt)

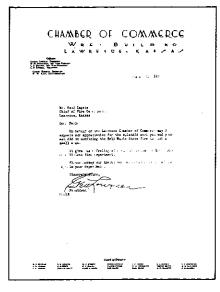


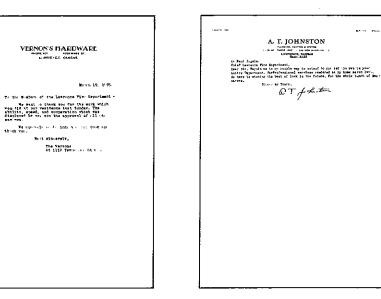
PAUL INGLES (Chief)

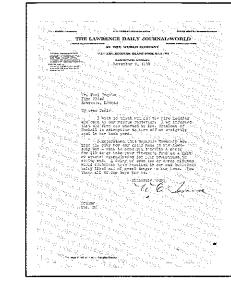
### LETTERS OF OUTSTANDING SERVICE BY THE LAWRENCE FIRE DEPARTMENT



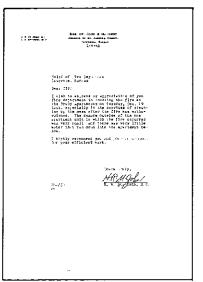


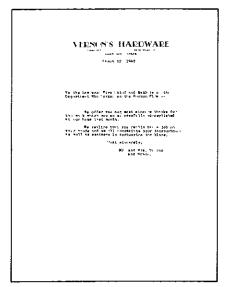


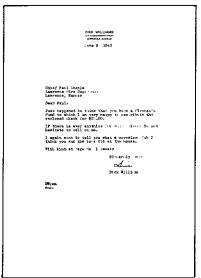


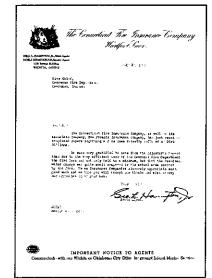


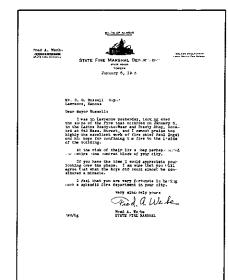


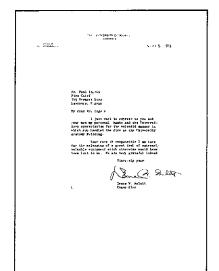


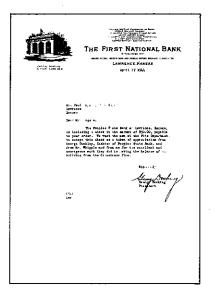


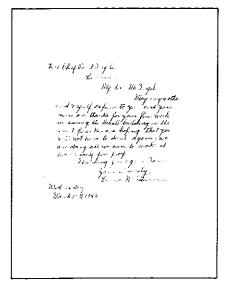


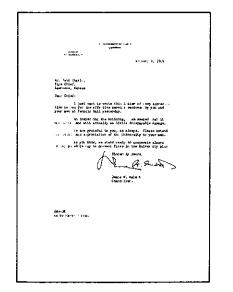


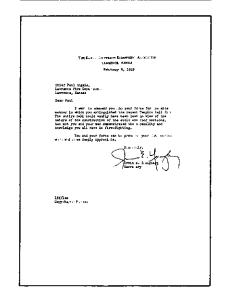


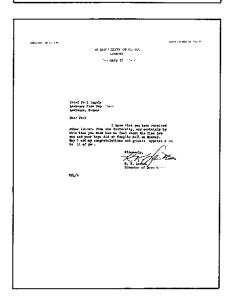














Chief Ingles with Chief's Car

### K. U. Girls find out what and how the Fire Department works.

Inspecting?



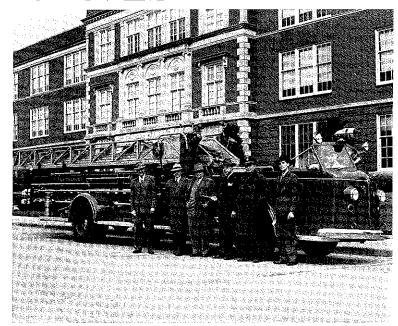


How to use a hose?

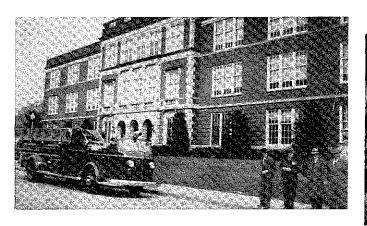
# ANNUAL NEW YEARS DINNERS STARTED BY CHIEF W. REINISCH

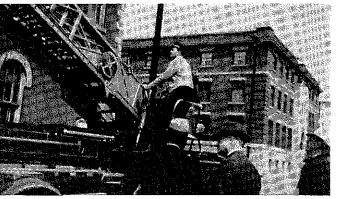


# LAWRENCE FIRE DEPARTMENT RECEIVES NEW AERIAL TRUCK



Mayor hands over a check for \$18,944.00 to American LaFrance Representatives.





Chief Ingles demonstrates to the Mayor and City Commissioners how the new 100' aerial ladder works.



Firemen draw quite a crowd while training with the new 100' ladder truck

All of the above photo's courtesy P Ingles

85

### SOME OF THE IMPORTANT EVENTS DURING THE 40'S

Taken from the Lawrence Fire Department Records

December 3, 1942 Local Newspaper owner loses barn and garage to fire. W.C. Simmon's has Loss of \$3,000.00

January 3, 1943 Sowpe Dress Shop was totally destroyed by fire Loss \$10,000.00

December 26, 1942 Plymouth Church hit by Lighting, roof and interior burn Loss \$9,000 00

February 4, 1944 American Legion Dorsey-Liberty Post donates to the Fire Department a new device called "Inhalator" (NOTE: This inhalator is still in use by the department today The original cost of the inhalator was \$180 00

February 22, 1944 Three (3) downtown stores burn: Hanna Radio Shop, A.A. Offices, and Riling Riling Law Offices. Loss \$30,000 00

March 3, 1944 Kansas University Chemistry Building Loss Est \$10,000.00

March 11, 1944 Barteldes Warehouse, firemen fought the fire for some 5 hours Loss \$30,000.00

March 1, 1945 Starling Furniture Store the building was saved but the contents were totally destroyed. Loss \$20,000.00

#### **GIFT TO FIREMEN**

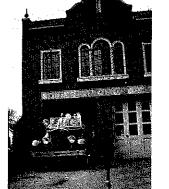




Left to Right F. Brown, E. Miller



Station number 2 gets new crew (Capt) and J. Dresser



July 2, 1946 Green Latern Cafe destroyed by heavy blaze. Loss \$20,000 00

August 10, 1946 College Inn Cafe burned Loss \$7,000.00

February 1, 1948 Lawrence Fire Department purchase oxygen masks and tanks "Scotts", the same Scotts are in use today by the department.

March 3, 1948 Green's Dress Shop totally lost to blaze. Loss \$20,000.00

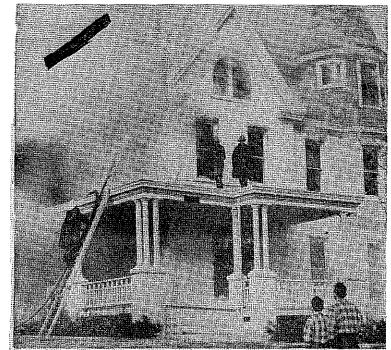
April 2, 1948 Templin Hall University of Kansas Loss

June 6, 1948 Derby Grain Elevator Fire Loss \$45,000.00

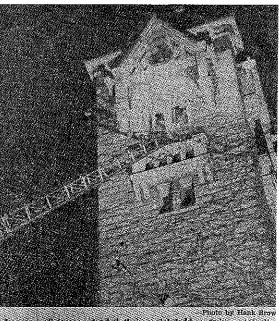
December 8, 1949 Dyche Hall (Museum of Natural History) University of Kansas Loss \$5,000.00

December 15, 1949 The State of Kansas awards the Lawrence Fire Department "Certificate of Merit" for outstanding services during the Fire Prevention Week

December 29, 1950 Acacia Fraternity House, University of Kansas. Two (2) firemen injured when the roof caved in. Chief P. Ingles and Charles Snow injured Loss \$60,000.00



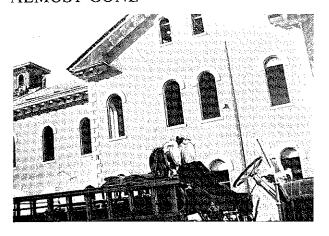




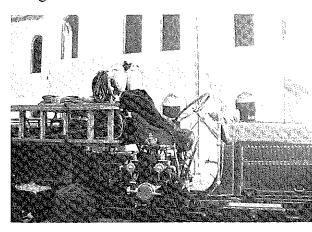
New crew takes truck number 18 to station with them

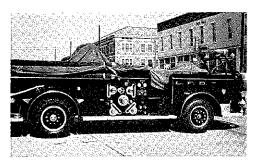
### LAWRENCE TO RECEIVE NEW **STATION** OLD STATION BUILT IN 1859

AFTER 92 YEARS OLD STATION IS ALMOST GONE



Trucks parked in street while old building is being torn down





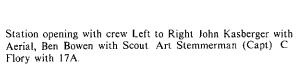
Chief gets new car and station



Lawrence gets new truck along with new station C Flory in seat.



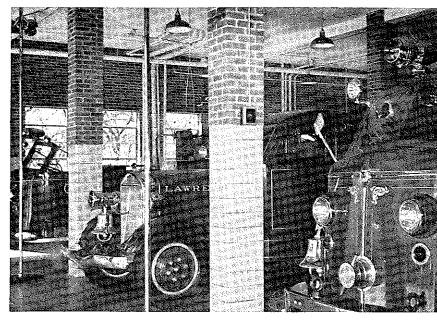
New Station with trucks

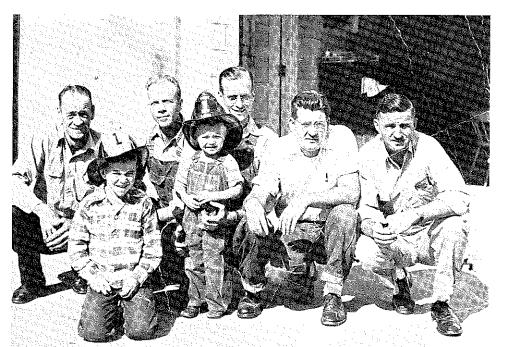






Ready for action in the new station — Aerial, Scout and 17A

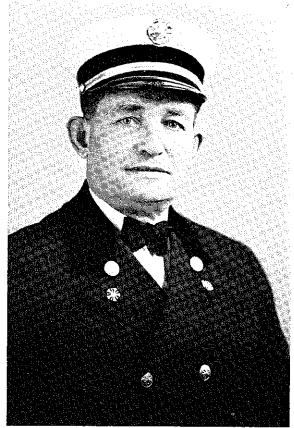




From left to right Art Stemmerman, C Flory John Kasberger, B Bowen, C Brubaker, Small boy kneeling L. Stemmerman other small boy?

WHAT A CREW — What ever became of them? Art Stemmerman — Retired, C Flory — Retired, now working with Kansas Public Service Department, John Kasberger — Now Chief of the Lawrence Fire Department, B.
Bowen — Deceased C Brubaker — Retired, now working as a State Fire Inspector, L Stemmerman — now a Lt on the Lawrence Fire Department serving as arson investigator, and building inspector,

# CHIEF INGLES TO RETIRE EFFECTIVE AUGUST 1, 1952



Chief Paul Ingles

Mayor writes a letter to Journal World

Chief Paul Ingles, 62, an employee of the Lawrence fire department for 40 years, and department chief for half that period, will retire this August 1.

It will be indeed a difficult task to replace a man so experienced and able in the art of firefighting as Chief Ingles. That intense loyalty and desire to render top service without regard for personal gain and loss are just two more major reasons why we hate to see him go.

A real veteran fireman, Chief Ingles is a veteran of almost every type of fire-fighting from the bucket-brigades of the old days right up to the scientific handling of blazes today.

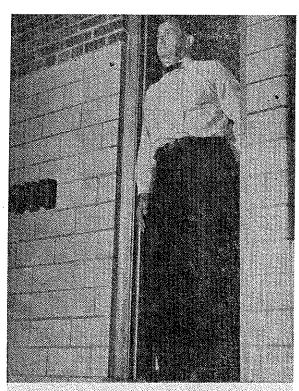
In 1918, only six years after joining the department, Ingles was named captain. He served in that capacity until he became chief in 1932, and has been at the helm since

It is indeed with regret I accept this letter of resignation.

Mayor, Kraft Lawrence Kansas

## CHIEF INGLES MAKES LAST **NEW'S CONFERENCE**

Taken from Journal World



RETIRING CHIEF-Lawrence Fire Chief Paul Ingels stands in th hoorway of his office looking over the department's equipment before his retirement in August. Ingels has served as chief for 20 years and

### Fireman's First Requirement Is Honesty, Ingels Believes

of his new steel desk and looked the idea of safety and not make out through the doorway of his any demands of them," Ingels ex-

the Lawrence fire department said.

eater, who has known no other profession, began to muse over his eventful career as a Lawrence department has an outstanding safety record, not only

Ingels joined the department in the days of horse-drawn fire wagons, few and far between fire plugs, and an alarm bell atop the plugs, and an alarm bell atop the

apiece to the three drivers and 12 jured frequently in fighting blazes call men who comprised the decall men who comprised the department which was then housed in the old city hall This building served as the fire station until it lists a good heart and a good pair was torn down three years ago to of legs as musts for any firefightmake way for the new ultra-mod- er.

firemen would respond by going di- you realize that the fire department bell. A series of rings would in- property while the owner is not form them what ward of the city present. There has never been a the fire was in. The three drivers case of any property being taken would speed the wagons to the fire.

When the first motor-driven truck by a member of the Lawrence fire was purchased for the department in 1914. Ingles was its first driver. From that time until he was made chief, he drove at various times both pumper trucks and the ladder truck which was replaced just aft-

der 13 mayors, took over as chief, special drills," he added. there were 12 men on the force manning three trucks. The present crew consists of 22 firemen on four

the other members of the depart- more loss value but we took more ment and to express his appreciation to the many townspeople and university officials who have helped him in his job

the chancellor and department close heads at K. U, the many housemothers, and other people that have helped us in conducting inspections and correcting fire hazards," he said "They've all been grand."

Ingels' pet project is he installation of fire alarm systems in all buildings in the city which are occupied by large numbers of people

When we've made inspections, Paul Ingels pushed back the chair I've tried to sell these people on creamcolored office. plains He has personally made about 50 inspections at K U every a little during the past 40 years," the 62 year old retiring chief of the Lawrence fire department and And with that understatement of the day, the soft-spoken fire-

eventful career as a Lawrence in reference to traffic accidents, since 1932 and as chief but to injuries sustained while

station to summon the fire fighters. The fires themselves meant \$3 mind "Ingels himself has been in-

As for qualifications for a fireman's job, Ingels has three He

"But the first qualification is ern station
The chief would lead the procescomplete honesty—A fireman can't sion in his one-horse wagon and the have sticky fingers," he said. "Do rectly to the blaze Location of the is the only function of the city govfire was determined by the alarm ernment that has access to private

department

"And you know, a fireman has to keep in shape just like a football player. His actions have to be automatic, he must be thoroughly familiar with his equipment, and must be well trained. That's why When Ingels, who has served un- we spend considerable time in

Ingels could not place his finger on any particular fire as being the worst in his career

"Every fire is different. We've Ingels is quick to give praise to had a lot of big fires—some have punishment on others-those are the really big fires in our books."

Ingels looked out into the station at the three shiny trucks. A career "I can't say too much for Law- of forty eventful years of comrence businessmen, city schools, munity service is coming to a

### JOHN MILLER TAKES COMMAND



From the Journal World

Lawrence's first new fire chief in 20 years, John W Miller, officially took over the reins of the local department August 1, 1952.

Miller, a 24-year veteran with the department succeeds Paul Ingles.

Chief Miller, who has been assistant chief since June 1, took over his new post, he announced the name of the men he was appointed to serve as executives of his staff.

Included are two assistant chiefs one for each of the two daily shifts; four captains two each for the Number One and Number Two stations.

Named as assistant chiefs by Chief Miller are John Kasberger, and Fred Sanders. Both assistants will serve out of the Number One station.

Captains at the Number One station are Clarence Flory, and Lawrence Hodson. Captains at Number Two station are Foy Brown and Chester Cohoon.

Chief Miller, 47, is a native of Leavenworth County and has been a resident of Lawrence for 32 years

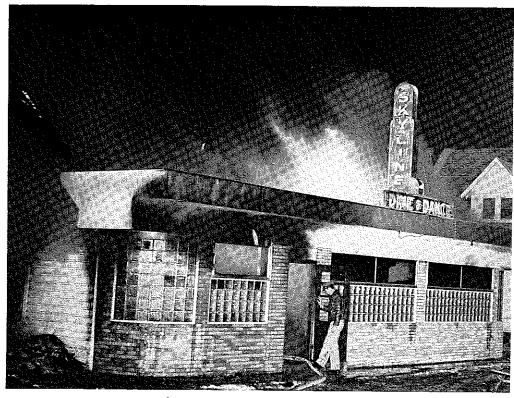
December 23, 1952

# SKYLINE NIGHT CLUB BURNS TO GROUND

LOSS WILL BE OVER \$30,000.00



Chief Miller directs the attack on the club Assistant Chief in leather jacket (F Sanders) who was off duty helps a firemen-direct hose.



### December 26, 1952

### RAGING FIRE GUTS OLSON BUILDING

# Firemen Battle Feverishly For Control; Loss About \$50,000.00 All Hands To The Scene.

A fire that raged out of control about two hours, gutted the building housing the Olson Bros. Plumbing Co., 934 Mass. St., and caused heavy smoke and water damage to two neighboring businesses.

There were no serious personal injuries. Several members of the Fire Department however, suffered minor cuts and bruises from the furious struggle with the flames and most had irritiated eyes, lungs, throats and faces due to the heavy smoke

All four trucks and all members of the Fire Department were called to fight the blaze, which broke out shortly after 8 a.m and sent smoke skyward.

Local firemen fought the fire until about 10:45 before finally bringing it under control. Even then great clouds of smoke continued to rise from the building.

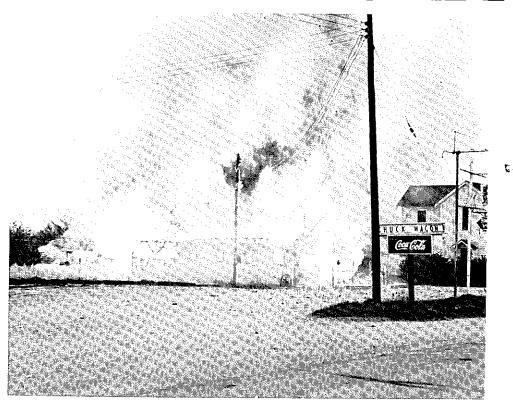




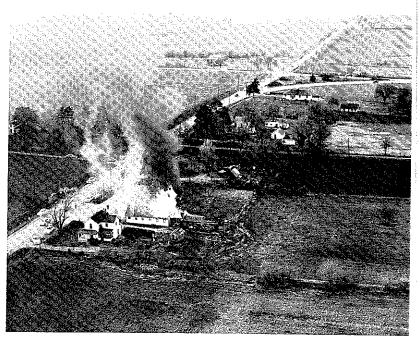




# CHUCK WAGON RESTAURANT GOES UP ABLAZE — TOTAL LOSS





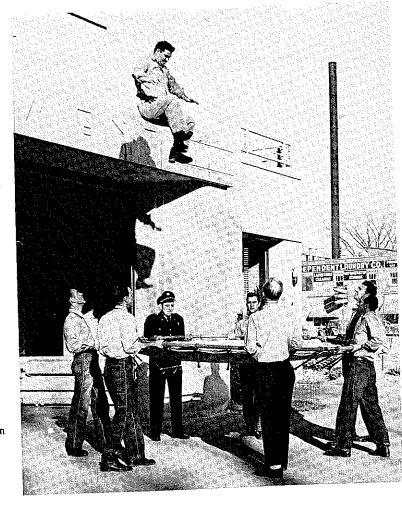


ALL PHOTOS COURTESY — D D. McCleery

### 1953 - 1954

# TRAINING IN THE 1950'S

FIREMEN IN TRAINING — One of the phases of training for members of the Lawrence fire department includes use of the safety net by which firemen can save persons forced to leap from burning buildings. Members of the department also must learn to jump into the net correctly as part of their training. Ordinarily the jumps are made from the tower at the rear of the fire station, 8th and Ky Sts., but Monday they were made from the roof at the front of the building. The picture shows Firemen Ben Bowen on his way to the net as others brace themselves to catch him.

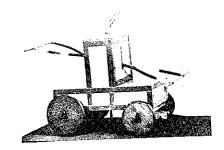


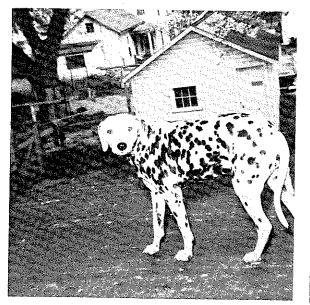
Starting left around net — H. Messer, J. Miller (Chief) V. Braden. ?, B. Davidson, C. Flory, and J. Kasberger.

# TAKEN FROM FIRE DEPARTMENT RECORDS

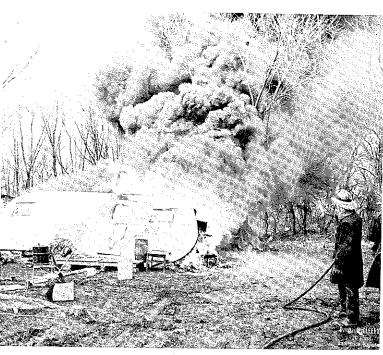
October 5 1953 — 7:28 A.M. Alarm of fire for the residence at 7th and Grant North Lawrence, house was totally engulfed in flames when the fire department arrived. Charles John Higgins lost his life in the fire. Cause determined to be an oil stove

On October 7th at 1:26 a.m an alarm of fire was sounded for an apartment above the Rankin Drug store at 1101 Mass. St., Mrs. Bessie Burris was burned in the fire on the arms and face, cause of fire unknown loss approximated \$3,000.00





FIRE DEPARTMENT GETS A NEW MASCOT "BLACKIE"



"Blackie", gets his first taste of what a firedogs life is all about —" Blackie's first run came on the morning of October 23, 1953 at 2:10 a gas leak around the hot water tank caused the explosion of this trailer house at 6th and Mich.

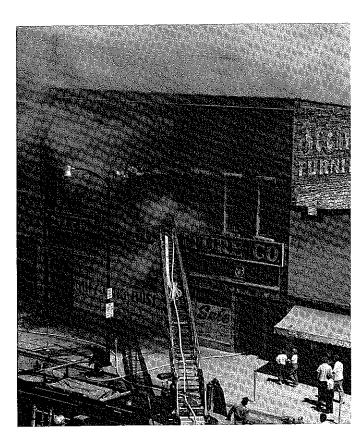


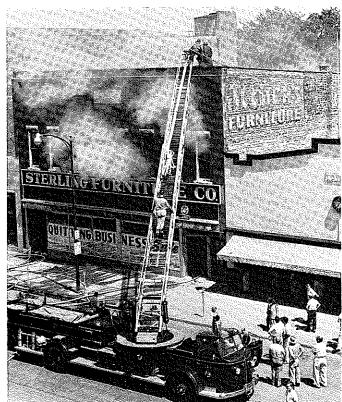
Crew at number 2 station — left to right F Brown (Capt) C Cassidy, L. Burns, B. (Red) Freeman — Trucks in background #18 on left and #16 on right

Almost every child wants to try on the Fire Chief's hat Mary Nunemaker did just that, when Chief John Miller and his dog. Blackie went to Bismark School

All photo's courtesy D McCleery

## DOWNTOWN FIRE ROARS THROUGH STERLING STORE











SMOKE, HEAT OVERCOME FIREMEN

Dense smoke and terrific heat coupled to form an added hardship for firemen battling a major noontime fire in the Sterling Furniture store. In the rear fireman Chuck Cassidy is shown after he collapsed on a rear fire escape while battling the blaze. Cassidy was one of several fire fighters who collapsed after working in the smoke which had let up momentarily. Fire Chief John Miller (white helmet) and four unidentified firemen are shown as they poured water from two hose lines into the rear of the building

Firemen Hold Blaze to Second Floor of Furniture Building

LOSS OVER \$50,000.00

Fire swept through a second-story storage space of the Sterling Furniture Co., 938 Mass St, shortly after noon and raged out of control about 45 minutes

No firemen were reported seriously injured in the fire but several of them had to retire from the fight temporarily when they were nearly overcome by the smoke and heat.

Fire Chief John Miller, who went up the fire escape at the rear to battle the flames, several times shouted to various men to go and rest when it became apparent they were showing signs of heat exhaustion

Men working from the front of the building had to don oxygen masks to go inside the building because of the intense smoke

Firemen still were battling the smoke and heat at 1:30 — more than an hour after the blaze was discovered, but the flames appeared to be under control.

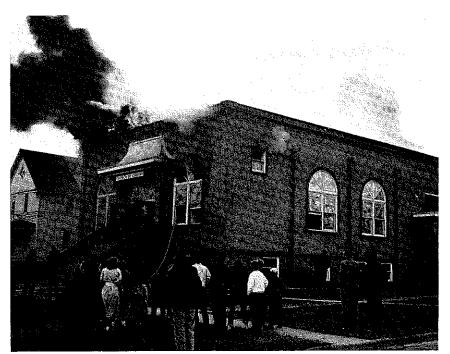
All photo's are courtesy D McCleery

### 1954

### FIRE CLAIMS CHURCH OF CHRIST



On December 5th at 3:15 p.m. an alarm of fire was sounded for the Church of Christ. The morning cold had frozen the water in the hydrant at the corner of the church and firemen had to use the plug at Mass. St., CPD. worked some four hours to contain the fire Cause unknown loss approximated at \$20,000.00.



A total of 1500 feet of hose used by firemen in holding the blaze in the church.

### STATISTICS ENDING DECEMBER 1954

Total feet of hose laid 38,200
Total feet of ladder raised 314
Total miles driven to alarms 737.5
Total hours and minutes pumpers used 248:30
Total amount of fire loss \$244,661.00
Total fire alarms 306

### MAJOR EVENTS IN 1954 — Taken From Fire Department Records

On February 11th at 5:19 p.m. an alarm sounded for the Phi Beta Pi house on the University of Kansas. The cause of the alarm unknown and the approximated loss \$5,000.00

On February 15th at 5:10 p.m. an alarm sounded because of lightning striking a girls dorm at Haskell, the loss approximated \$4,000.00.

On March 14th at 6:50 a.m. an alarm of fire sounded for the Derby Grain Elevator in North Lawrence, cause unknown the loss approximated \$5,500.00.

On June 21st at 9:03 p.m. an alarm of fire sounded for Rusty's Food Store at 1117 Mass St., cause electrical wiring, loss approximately \$6,000.00

On August 24th at 12:25 p.m. Sterling Furniture Co., cause unknown, loss approximated \$60,000.00.

On October 12, 13, 14 and 15th Annual Fire School at Hutchinson Kansas, personnel attending — J. Miller, F. Sanders, B. Bowen, C. Brubaker.

On November 2nd at 5:25 a.m. an alarm of fire sounded for the New York School, cause unknown but suspected arson, loss approximated \$6,100.00.

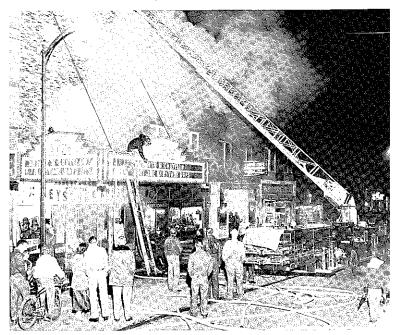
On December 4th at 9:04 a.m. an alarm of fire sounded for a house in north Lawrence. Fireman Robert Nightengale received 1st and 2nd degree burns on his face and arms.

On December 5th at 3:15 p.m. an alarm of fire for the Church of Christ. Cause unknown, loss approximated \$11,200 00.

On December 27th at 1:50 an alarm of fire sounded for Vincents Inc., 706 Mass. St., the basement was full of smoke and fire spreading rapidly, cause unknown, loss approximated \$10,000.00

### February 28 — 1955

SMOKE BELLOWS FROM PATEE HUNDREDS SEE BLAZE WHICH WRECKS PATEE THEATER

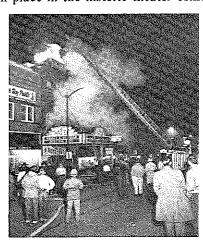


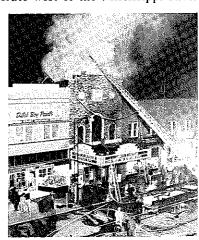
Hundreds of spectators gathered in the 800 block on Mass. St, to watch a fire that raged out of control for almost an hour in the front portion of the Patee Theater.

Loss approximated at 60,000 00. All available firemen were called to the scene to keep the fire from spreading in the business district and virtually every local law enforcement officer lent a hand in controlling the crowd.

Chief Miller said "it was fortunate no injuries resulted from the fire, terming the interior very dangerous after the fire had damaged the front part of the structure. A section of the balcony, which extends about two-thirds of the way out over the main floor, was dropped onto seats below " Cause of the fire is unknown

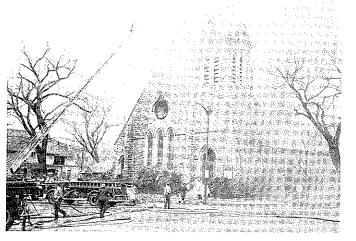
The Patee Theater was the second motion picture theater in the nation when opened by Clair M Patee in 1903 in the 700 block on Mass St. It was often called the "Nickle" theater because of the admission price and due to the large replica of a five-cent piece that hung outside It was moved to its present location in 1915. Several less serious fires have taken place in the historic theater considered the first ever to operate west of the Mississippi River

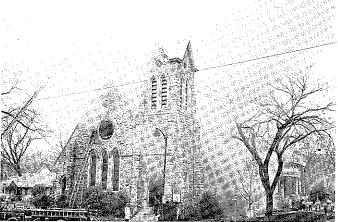


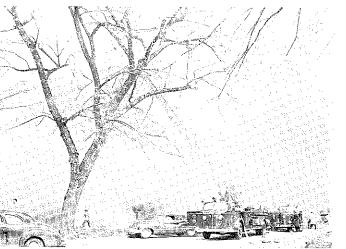


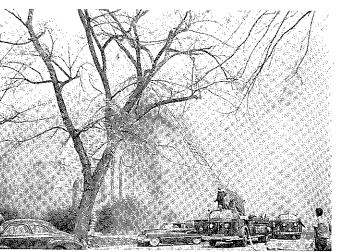
# April 18 — 1955 TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH STRUCK BY FIRE

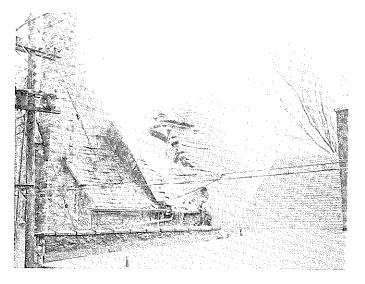
LOSS \$115,000.00





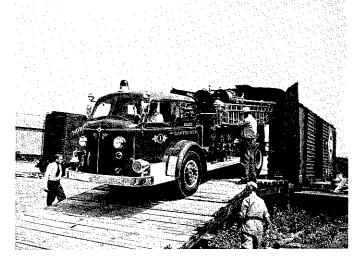






## NEW ADDITION ARRIVES FOR FIRE DEPARTMENT

Lawrence's New \$27,250 pumper arrives May 17, 1955



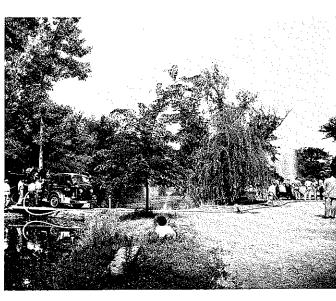
Chief Miller checks to see if unloading of new Here a salesman for American La-France Co., pumper is going alright.'



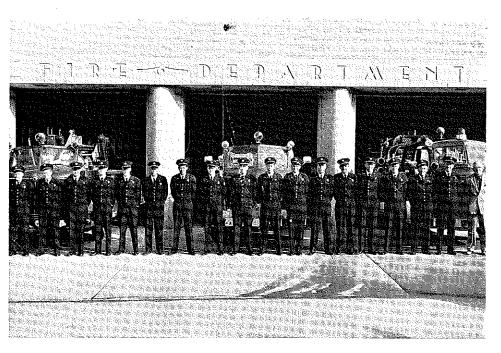
manufacturers of the truck, drives it off a loading dock.



Chief Miller inspects new pumper before accepting the new truck from the manufacturers.



Here a four (4) hour acceptance test is given to the new pumper.



CREW AT NUMBER ONE STATION — Left to Right — D Knight, S. (Buddy) Griffin, D Headley. M Lisher, J. Prentice, N. Buffington, ?, B Deay, L. Anderson K. Dean, C. (Beef) Brubaker, C. (Duchman) Flory, J. Todd, S. Brubaker, J. Kasberger (Asst Chief). J. Miller (Chief). F. Sanders (Asst



CREW AT NUMBER TWO STATION - Left to Right - C. Cohoon. J. Kasberger (Asst Chief). J Miller (Chief), F. Sanders (Asst Chief), F. Brown. ?, K. Dean, (Chief's Driver), C (Hoppy) Cassidy L (Squeaky) Spence. L. Burns B (Red) Freeman Dogs Blackie. & Sally

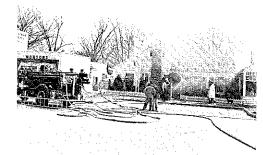
# LAWRENCE FIRE DEPARTMENT GROWS WITH THE TIMES



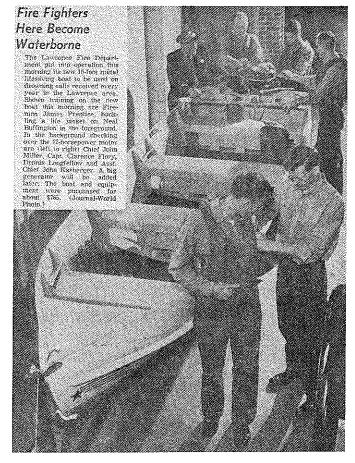
Chief Miller and firemen build onto number two station — From left to right — man on ladder ?, L. Spence, D. Knight, J. Miller (Chief), S. Griffin, man on end?



Lawrence fire department make home inspections—From left to right J Prentice, (Lady unknown) J Kasberger (Asst Chief). and C Brubaker Chief in car



One of the many times the Southern Pit is on fire Number Two station does not have very far to go on this call, the Southern Pit is directly across the street from the station



Lawrence fire department receive a rescue boat — From left to right around boat. J. Miller (Chief) C. Flory (Capt) D. Longfellow, J. Kasberger (Asst Chief), J. Prentice, buckling a life jacket on N. Buffington in foreground.



Chief Miller checks on some repairs to the drive in front of number two station.

### September 10 — 1955

### PLYMOUTH CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH HAS A SPECTACULAR FIRE

### TOTAL LOSS WILL GO OVER \$100,000.00

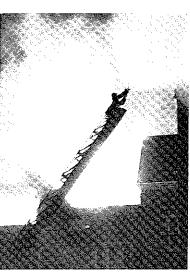
A spectacular fire of undertermined origin almost destroyed the Plymouth Congregational Church.

The Plymouth Congregational is recognized as the oldest organized church in Kansas and celebrated its centennial year with the city 1954. It was established in Lawrence 101 years ago October 1955. The present main structure of the church was erected in 1870 at a cost of \$45,000.00. The parish house was added in 1916, during the pastorate of Rev-Noble S. Elderkin.

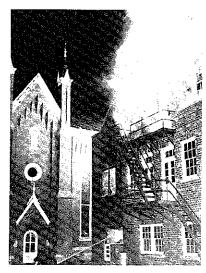
Every member of the 25-man crew of the Lawrence Fire Department was called to fight the blaze in a battle which began about 3:30 a m, and continued for 2½ hours All firemen were to receive tetanus shots because of the numerous scratches suffered during the battle.



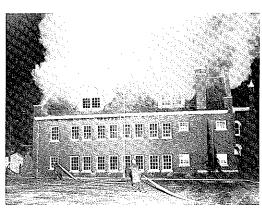
Unidentified firemen setting ladder truck to reach the flames that were coming thru the roof



Here firemen setting the desired stream of



Here three (3) firemen fight blaze from rear of building



Here Two (2) firemen fight fire thru side window

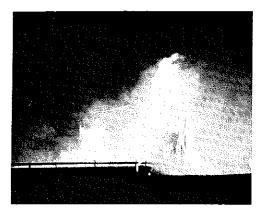


Here two (2) firemen drag hose for a side attack.

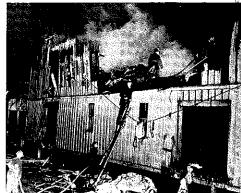
### 1960

### DERBY GRAIN ELEVATORS HIT HARD BY FIRE

High Winds, Low Water Pressure Hamper Firemen's Efforts TOTAL LOSS WILL BE OVER \$130,000.00





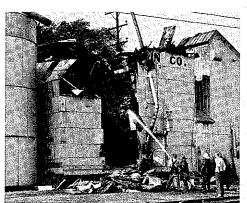


A wind-whipped fire of undertermined origin destroyed the feed mill and office section of the Derby Grain Inc., at 301 Locust in North Lawrence today

The Lawrence Fire Department got the call at 11:51 a.m., and responded quickly with a maximum effort. However, low water pressure in city lines hampered the firemen in their determined efforts to combat the fast-spreading blaze and keep it from claiming storage elevator facilities immediately to the east

At 2 p.m, the fire was still burning but had been brought under control and the rest of the grain facilities appeared to be safe

Two firemen were knocked down by flying power wires and debris, but no one was seriously hurt.



#### WAKARUSA FORMS FIRE DEPARTMENT



Here is the first Wakarusa



Here is photo of Chief Smith, the first Chief of the Wakarusa Fire Department ---

### CHIEF MILLER TO RETIRE



Lawrence Fire Chief John Miller will end more Fred (Fritz) Sanders today was named as the than 32 years of service to the city on October 11, Chief of the Lawrence Fire Department to suc-1960.

The chief's retirement was announced today by Chief Sanders appointment was announced by City Manager Harold Horn who said, "It's hard City Manager Harold Horn, who commented of to reconcile ourselves to the fact that he must the Chief, "He's a really top man for the job." retire. There's no question that he's built one of the best fire-fighting operations in the state. We Sanders is a department veteran, having served 19 constantly are hearing comment about the Law- years with the Lawrence force. He began Septemrence department and the efficiency and skill with ber 7, 1941, as a fireman, working up to captain which Chief Miller handles the department"

Miller's 32 years as a fireman all have been with the local department as a fireman. He started A native of Douglas County, Sanders was born 51 May 8, 1928.

Promotions in those days came slowly, but by Chief Sanders will name his assistant chief, and 1952, two quick promotions came to him. On June retirement within the week. 1, he became assistant chief and in August of the same year, was raised to chief

### FRED SANDERS APPOINTED CHIEF



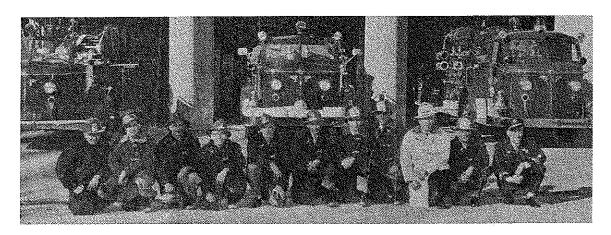
ceed John Miller

on June 5, 1952. In August of that same year, he was promoted to assistant chief.

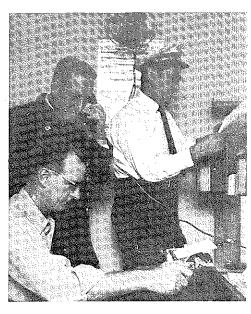
years ago in Lone Star.

1939, he had worked up to the rank of captain In other manpower changes necessitated by Miller's

# LAWRENCE TO HAVE AUXILIARY FIREMAN



Lawrence's Auxilliary Fire Department — Members of the auxiliary fire department pose for their first group picture in front of of the city No 1 Fire Station Members of the group are (left to right) Willis McCorkell, Theron Wray, Earl Gardner. Michael Barnhart, Marcus Winter, Levi Lawrence, Martin Henry, Howard Lindley, Art McKittrick, Joe Zimmerman (Chief) the auxiliary fire department was the brainstorm of John Kasberger (Asst Chief) and Art McKittrick, who formerly worked for the American La-France Company fire truck manufactures

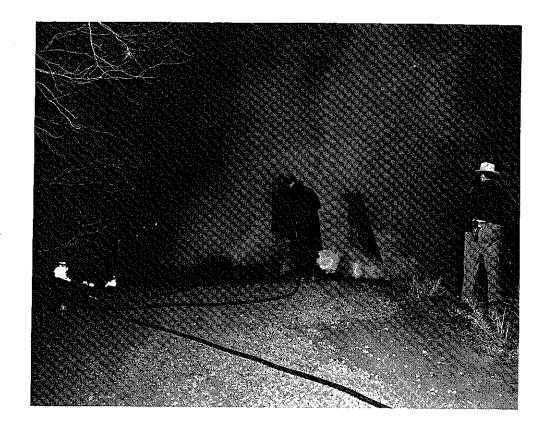


OLD CHIEF — NEW CHIEF — AND CHIEF TO BE — Here Chief Miller turns over all the files to the newley assigned chief Sanders, Assistant chief John Kasberber helps with some typing



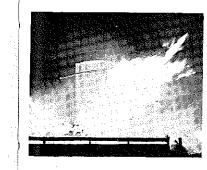
CHIEF SANDERS MAKES
HOME INSPECTIONS
Home inspections by the Chief is a
old tradition started by Chief W.
Reinisch in 1901.

# NOT ALL FIRES ARE IN THE HOME OR IN A BUSINESS

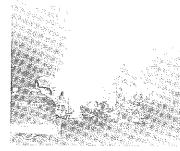


Here a bridge is burning east of Midland — The fire was set by some small boys playing with matches. Sheriff Rex Johnson watches the action.

# GRANT TOWNSHIP HAS IT'S SHARE OF FIRES





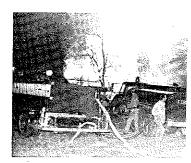


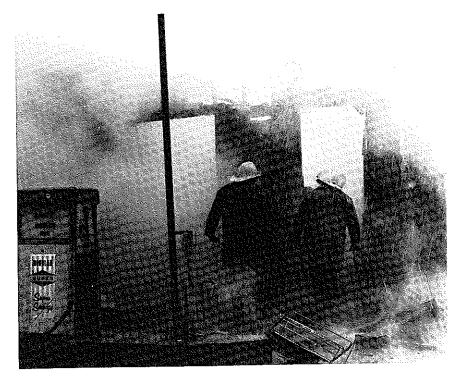












### BLACKBURN'S SERVICE STATION FIRE

Lawrence and Wakarusa fire departments team together to fight a service station fire owned by Mr. Blackburn — the building was a complete loss.

### POPCORN PLANT TOTALLY DESTROYED

Loss will be over \$250,000.00



OUI OF CONTROL -Lawrence Firemen used almost all available equipment to bring the fire at T-N-T Products Inc , under control today The battle lasted more than seven hours. The fire was discovered at 3 a m. At least a million pounds of unpackaged popcorn was stored on the second story of the two-story brick building. The present T-N-T corporation was formed in 1952, but popcorn operations in the building date back to 1930, when the company was part of Barteldes Seed Co. The seed company was started by the Barteldes family in 1867 in Lawrence



## CITY FIRE LOSS RECORD IN 1965

Lawrence this past year suffered through the worst fire loss of its history, for a total of \$395,219 00. Fire Chief F.C. Sanders annual report shows. Previous high was 1955, when two large churches burned to push the loss total to about \$325,000.00

In addition to the heavy loss to buildings and contents, two persons died in separate fires.

Biggest fire loss last year was when I-N-I Food Products Inc., was lost. The second "Heaviest damage" fire in 1965 was a house fire at 1631 Ill. St., three other \$10,000.00-plus fires helped boost the 1965 total to its record peak. Contents loss in '65 was estimated at \$232,146.00, while building loss was estimated at \$163.073.

The Lawrence Fire Department answered 367 runs in '65, 406 in '64, and 361 in 1963

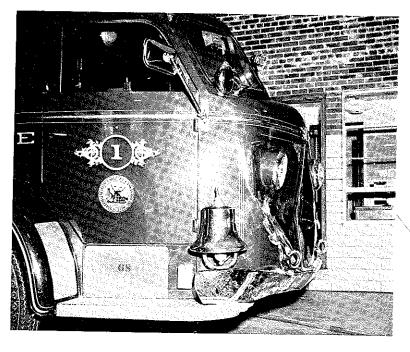
Causes of the record fires in '65: Flammable liquids, 43; cigarettes, 26; electrical, 59; grass and trash, 45; children playing with matches, 12; chimneys, 1; fireworks, 2; lightning, 2; undetermined, 47; miscellaneous, 60; gas washes, 26; arson, 1; 23 false alarms, and 11 resuscitator calls made by the department

Last year, firemen spent 4,284 hours drilling and an additional 8,534 man hours cleaning station and equipment, 813 man hours were spent on maintenance of fire apparatus.

# NOT ALL THE DAMAGE IS DONE BY FIRE

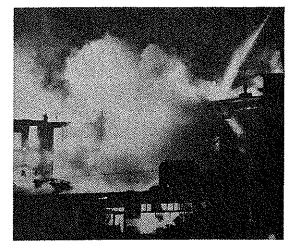
Here are just a couple of the Boo-Boos

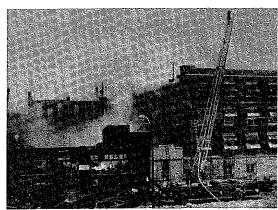


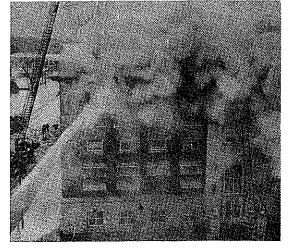


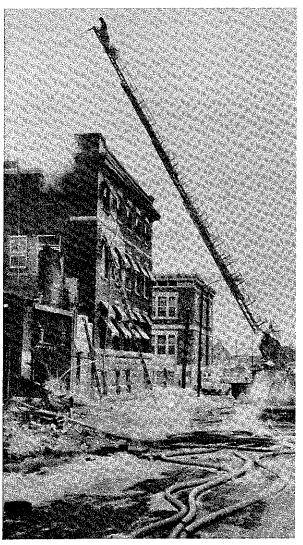
# December 28, 1966

# MAMMOTH FIRE DOWNTOWN WORST IN CITY





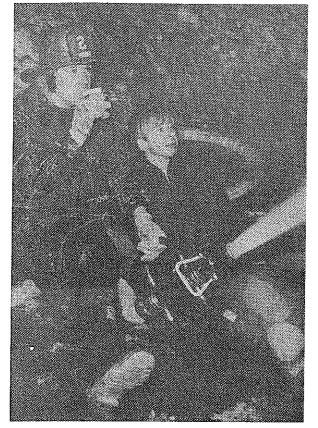




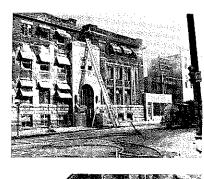
The Three Injured Firemen

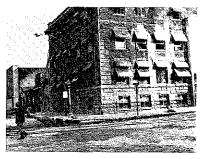
Capt LeRoy A Spence, Capt Donald Knight and Fireman Doyle Headley — Headley was listed in fair condition today, with a fractured right leg, possible back injury and cuts on his head. He is in the acute care center. Spence was in good condition with burns Knight was in good condition with smoke inhalation.

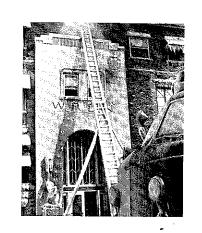
# — \$1 MILLION LOSS —— 3 MEN INJURED

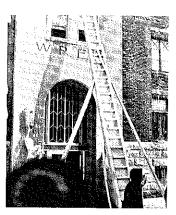






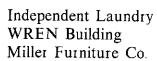






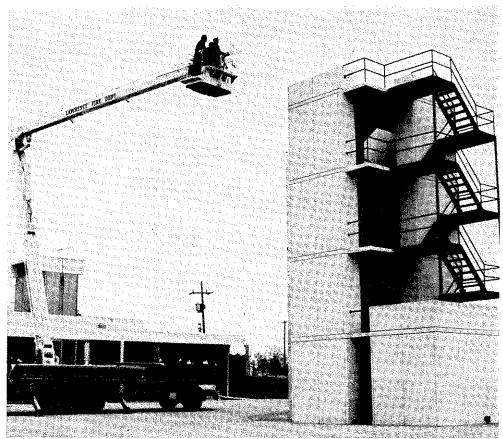
Upper and Lower photo's taken the next day about noon

BUSINESS INVOLVED





### FIRE DEPARTMENT RECEIVES A NEW 85' SNORKEL



Chief Sanders shows the two new captains all about the Snorkel — Photo taken in the rear of Number 2 station

### Taken from the Fire Department Records:

#### FIREMAN FORM UNION

The firemen became alarmed over the seemingly unconcerned actions of the city in obtaining new equipment, additional men, and other pertinent things. The fire loss was growing by leaps and bounds, primarily due to not having proper equipment, and enough men to work.

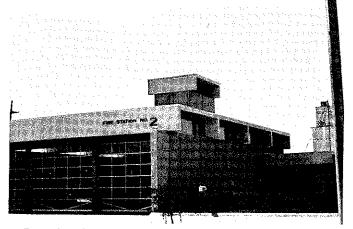
After several unsuccessful attempts to convince the city of the many problems, the men took the only action they knew how, by forming a union

The members of the union immediately sent a letter to the chief requesting additional equipment, additional man power, a change in the insurance policy and a revised retirement policy. The chief forwarded the letter to the Mayor and City Commissioners

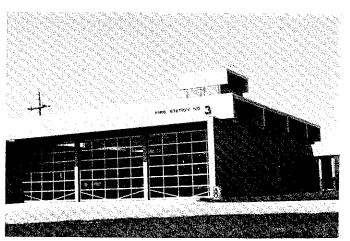
The city refused to recognize the men as a legal union. Although the following did occur:

The purchase of a new Snorkel
Four (4) additional men added to the department
In 1968, the addition of Two (2) new stations
The purchase of Three (3) 1,250-gallon pumpers
Twelve (12) additional men added to the department
And later a new optional retirement program was offered to the men

# FIRE DEPARTMENT TO RECEIVE TWO NEW STATIONS; TWELVE MEN TO BE ADDED TO DEPARTMENT AND THREE NEW 1,250-GALLON PUMPERS.



Front view of station Number 2, located at 19th and Haskell St



Front view of station Number 3, located at 3708 West 6th Street

Taken from the Fire Department Records:

#### MAJOR EVENTS FROM 1966-1969

January 4, 1966 — The Charter signed by Local #1596 — (Union Formed)

February 20, 1966 — A residence fire at 426 Neb loss \$30,000.00.

March 13, 1966 — Hillcrest Shopping Center fire, stores involved:

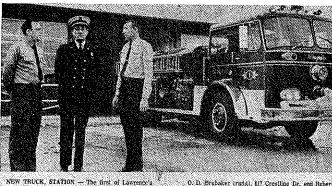
RANEY'S DRUGS BORGAN LIQUOR STORE HILLCREST HARDWARE loss \$510,000 00

December 28, 1966 — Downtown fire buildings involved:

INDEPENDENT LAUNDRY WREN APTS MILLER FURNITURE BRIMANS JEWELRY ZIP DRUGS loss \$1,000,000.00

January 10, 1967 — The purchase of a new SNORKEL and Four (4) men added to dept

February 9, 1967 — Centenary Methodist Church fire, loss \$42,000 00 and Two (2) firemen slightly injured — Kendrick, and Stemmerman



SW TRUCK, STATION — The first of Lowrence's ree new 1,254-gollon Seagrove pumper fire trucks rived Salurday, and is shown in Form of the merelyimplete Fire Station No. 3 at 2008 W. 6th St. The rived was rived as should arrive in about a month, pinstronictly the same time Station No. 3 becomes opthough Chief F. C. Sandow, foresteed west design.

no. recome was promoted to captain in fail the vacancy at Station No. 1 when Brubaker moves to No. 2. (Journal-World Photo)

Delta Fraternity fire loss

May 17, 1967 — Phi Gamma Delta Fraternity fire loss \$243,000.00 and Two (2) firemen slightly injured — Asst Chief J. Kasberger, and Stemmerman

Total number of alarms in 1967. .....533

Total amount of fire loss in 1967 \$765,000 00.

January 1, 1968 — Twelve (12) men added to the dept.

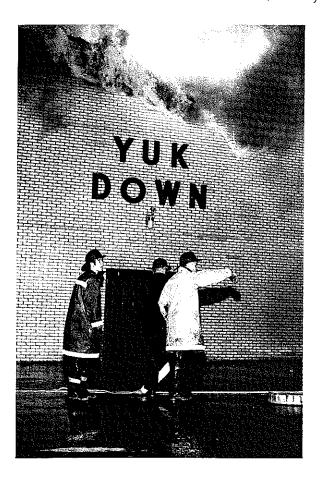
January 1968 — The building of Two (2) new stations.

January 1968 — The purchase of Three (3) new 1,250 gal pumpers

March 12, 1968 — McCoy Shoe Store fire, loss \$10,000.00

### April 23-1969

### HILLCREST SHOPPING CENTER HAS ANOTHER FIRE; THE YUK-UP YUK-DOWN BILLARD CENTER HAS \$200,000.00 FIRE.



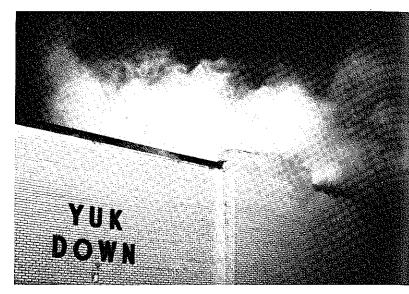
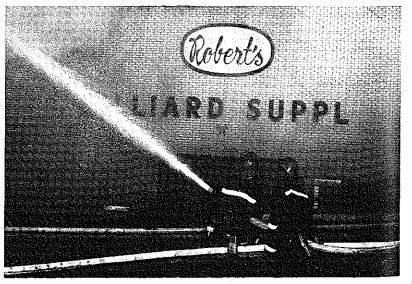


Photo at left firemen E. Sangster pointing to hose that needs water, while D Wilmoth looks on — Photo at top shows the fire coming thru the roof. — Photo lower left unidentified fireman dragging hose — Photo lower right firemen L Coleman helping unidentified fireman fight fire





### LAWRENCE ENTERS INTO BAD TIMES



# THE 1970 RIOTS

# GAMBLES GUTTED BY FIRE LOSS OVER \$150,000.00





Above Assistant Chief J. Kasberger uses a pike pole to find some fire hid in the ceiling.



Above firemen J. Scruggs is asking for more equipment.





Photo at left was taken at just the instant the jack holding the hook and ladder broke — Firemen Wilmoth on bottom side of the ladder and Lt. Pearson trapped on top of him, also the nozzle is hanging over electrical wires as it broke loose from the ladder.

All the above photos are courtesy of Ron Bishop.

# FIRE BOMB THEORY IN GAMBLES BLAZE

#### Taken from the Fire Department Records:

Firemen battled the inferno with an intensity that almost cost one man his life. If Lt. M. Pearson had not been flung against fireman D. Wilmoth when a hook and ladder truck tipped over, fireman Wilmoth would have been thrown from the ladder to the sidewalk.

Both Wilmoth and Pearson were taken to the Lawrence Memorial Hospital. Although neither man was injured, and both returned to the scene of the fire.

Lawrence firemen crawled through the smoking wreckage and clung perilously to window ledges three stories above the street.

The firemen were very thankful that the Ladies Auxiliary to the fireman's union were there with coffee and doughnuts, for the exhausted fire fighters.

### FIRE CAME IN AS A FIRE BOMB IN THE ALLEY BEHIND GAMBLES —

Fragments of glass believed to be part of an incendiary bomb were found in the charred wreckage of Gambles Furniture Store by state fire investigators.





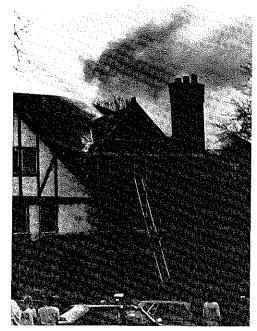
Above fireman R. Nixon is putting on a "Scott" breathing apparatus in preparation of entering the smoke filled building.



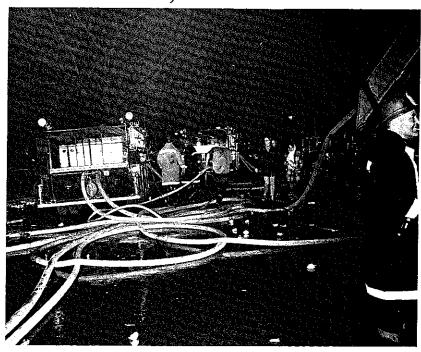
Firemen receive help from the Safety Patrol in holding down a 2½ hose line.

# KAPPA SIGMA FRATERNITY TOTALLY DESTROYED BY FIRE

LOSS OVER \$200,000.00

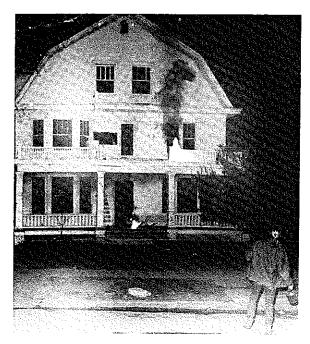


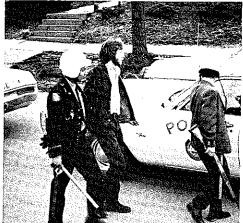
Above firemen using hose on ladders to fight the fire thru windows



Above Capt. Knight directing operations from street — Note: both truck beds are emptied of hose, over 2000 of hose was used to extinguish the blaze — Firemen fought the blaze some 4 hours

# WHY? 1225 OREAD AVE (OLD WHITE HOUSE)





The house at 1225 Oread Ave, more commonly known as the "Old White House", belonged to Mr Daniel S. Ling, who rented it to the students at the University

The fire department made a total of 10 runs in the month of April to 1225 Oread Ave, and 17 runs before the house was completely torn down by the University

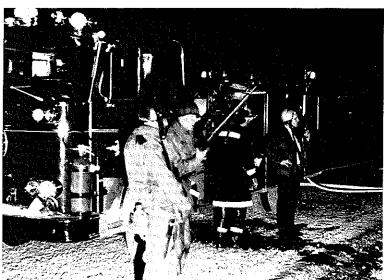
Photo at far left shows why?—An unidentified rioter throwing a "fire bomb" at the "Old White House", just one of many

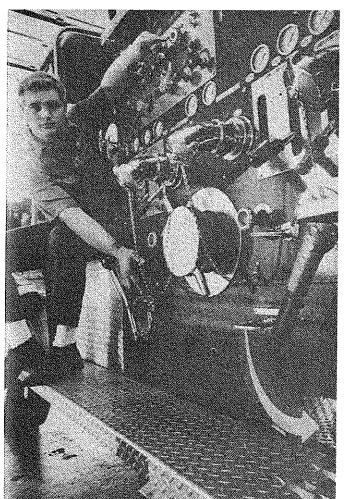
Photo at left shows same unidentified rioter being arrested and on his way to jail.

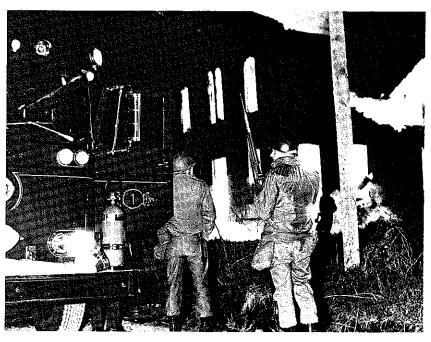
# OLD LINCOLN SCHOOL HIT BY SUSPECTED FIRE BOMBING

The National Guard stands guard while fire is extinguished

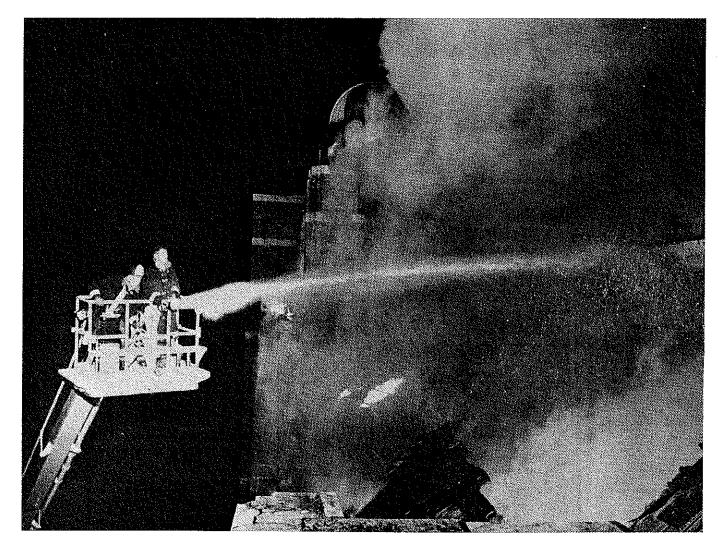








### KANSAS UNIVERSITY



#### Taken from the Fire Department Records:

At 10:28 p.m. on the 20th of April an alarm of fire came in to the effect "The Kansas Union has just been bombed and is full of fire."

The department immediately responded with three pumpers the Snorkel and the Ladder Truck Immediately a Code 3 fire was called by the Chief and all "off duty" personnel was notified to respond

At 10:48 p m. on the 20th, the fire was completely out of control and breaking thru the roof in several different locations, the Snorkel and Ladder Truck were set and the maximum amount of water was being played upon the fire

At 1:30 a m. on the 21st, the fire was contained to the older portion of the Student Union and primarily to the "ball room" area

At 2:00 a m on the 21st, most of the firemen were becoming exhausted from the intense heat and smoke Most of the firemen had been on duty anywhere from 24 to 30 hours, because of the numerous "fire bombings" and other small fires that were started by various groups all over town

Although tired and exhausted by 10:30 a.m. on the 21st, another "fire bombing" call at 1225 Oread, (Old White House)

At 4:54 p.m on the 21st, another alarm of "fire bombing" at Cordley School at 1847 Vermont St

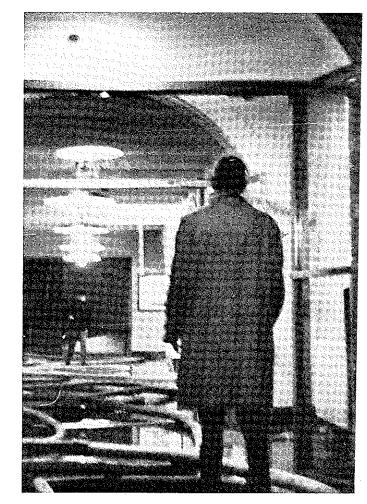
At 7:59 pm on the 21st, again another "fire bombing" at 1225 Oread, (Old White House)

At 8:20 p.m on the 21st, again another "fire bombing" at 1225 Oread

At 9:20 pm on the 21st, alarm of 'fire bombing" at 1241 Oread, (Gas Light)

At 10:30 p.m on the 21st alarm of "fire bombing" in the 1300 block of Tenn St.

At 11:50 pm on the 21st, alarm of possible 'fire bombing' of a vacant 2 story house at 7th and Lincoln, house completely destroyed



### APRIL 20, 1970 LOSS OVER 1-MILLION DOLLARS

Taken from the Journal World

HUNGRY FLAMES RISE FAST — At 10:25 p.m a Kansas Union employee checked the Pine Room he noticed nothing out of the ordinary

Five minutes later, someone smelled smoke in the area, and by 10:30 p.m., vicious orange flames were billowing from that area, and a disastrous fire was under way

Frank Burge related the series of events to Lawrence Fire Chief F.C. (Fritz) Sanders

Sanders said it might be several days before the state fire marshall's office ventures an opinion about the cause of the blaze "But from the way it burned and from what I'm told it was definitely a case of bombing"

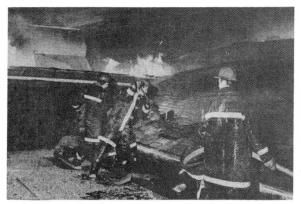
Photo at left shows the man who discovered the fire standing in the door



### FIREMEN STRUGGLE AT

### UNION FIRE FOR 12 HOURS

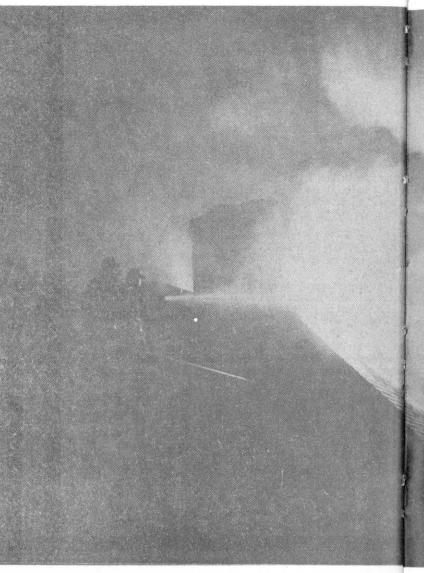
FIGHTING FROM OUTSIDE ON THE ROOF



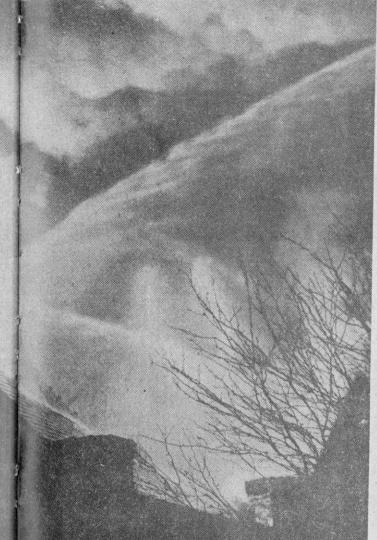
FIGHTING FROM LADDER TRUCK







FIGHTING FROM INSIDE



被出

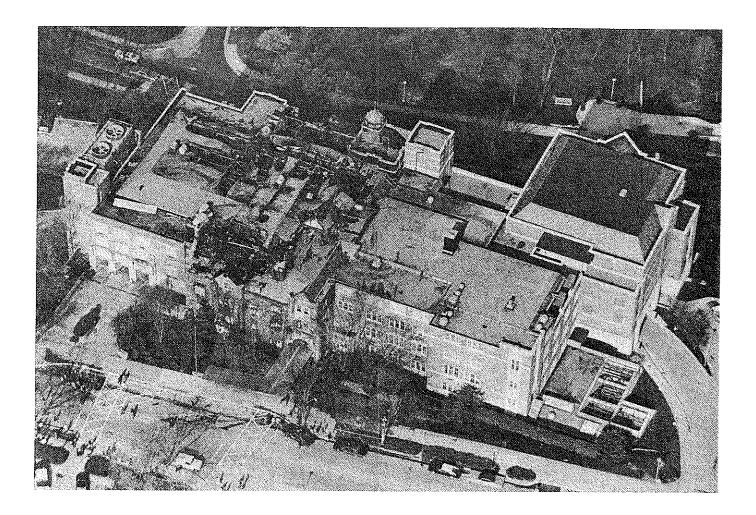
THE ROOF OVER THE BALL ROOM STARTING TO COLLAPSE

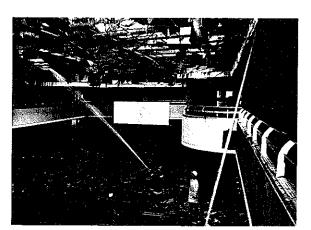


A portion of the roof at the KU Memorial Union collapsed soon after 1:15 a.m. after two aerial streams of water were played on the blaze. Two students went into the union shortly before the collapse and helped a Lawrence fireman from the fourth floor after he was overcome by moke.

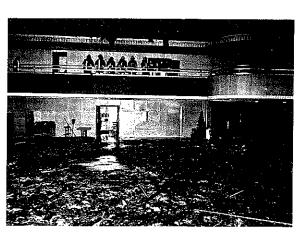
All photo's courtesy Ron Bishop.







Above Capt. Knight and Chief Sanders checking for small fires in the roof of the ball room



Above firemen take a break after 12 hours to see what's left

### AP REPORTER REVIEWS LAWRENCE'S TURMOIL

#### This is an excerpt from the Journal World

A special assignment reporter for the Associated Press spent four days in Lawrence gathering information for the following news analysis. "Lawrence Kansas, would seem to be the least likely place for terror and death. It is a University Town situated in the heartland of America. Now it is wracked by violence, and its story may be the story of the tensions besetting much of the United States.

Our philosophy has been said City Manager Buford M Watson Ir "that the least enforcement is the best enforcement

Now the atmosphere of live and let live is seriously threatened in Lawrence — this once serene university town of 45 000 tucked away in the lush farmlands of northeastern Kansas

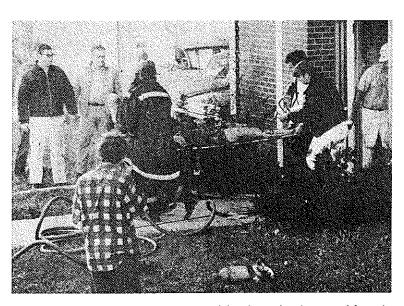
The long, dry summer has brought terror and violent death. Now people are remembering that the land of Eisenhower Amellia Earhart and the Wizard of Oz was once known to the nation as "bloody Kansas" before the outbreak of the Civil War.

Since July, two persons — one a 19 year old black militant the other a white University of Kansas student have been killed by gunfire. Snipers and arsonists have been active. Arsonists have tossed fire bombs at many local business and homes, opened up with rifles on firemen while performing their jobs of extinguishing the fires. Threats of bombing are almost a daily occurence.

### RENZ APARTMENTS BURNS WITH FURY

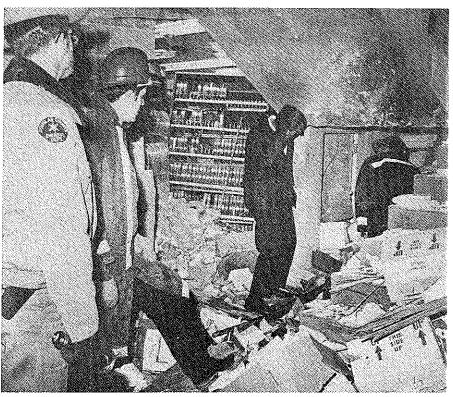


Victim's apartment above is the one which a young girl of 19, resided prior to the fire at the Renz Apartments At right persons on balconies throw out belongings and try to determine how to get to safety themselves.



Rescue Operations — A young 19 year old University student is removed from the Renz Apartments after fire inflicted critical injuries on the young woman and caused some \$30,000 in damage. The student suffered third-degree burns over 70 per cent of her body

### SUMMERFIELD HALL BOMBED



GROUND ZERO — The bomb which caused extensive damage to Summerfield Hall was placed somewhere in the approximate area where firemen are checking. Chief Sanders and two firemen check for further damage

### AMERICAN LEGION HONORS FIRST FIREMAN OF THE YEAR



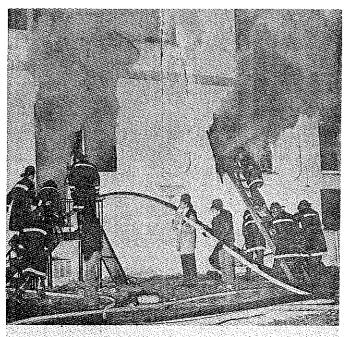
Lt Paul Findley, 30 has been selected outstanding 'Fireman of the Year' for citation by the Dorsey-Liberty American Legion Post

Lt Findley was selected for his outstanding achievements, and will be presented the award by Cmdr John Parcell of the American Legion

Lt. Findley, has served on the fire department for 10 years, is drill master at number 2 station

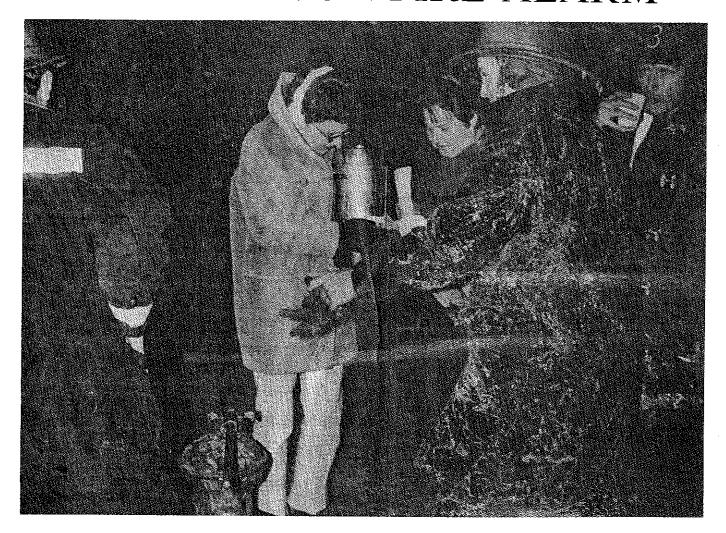
This is the first such award presented by the Legion The citation will become an annual event

#### SACAJAWEA HALL DESTROYED



FIREMEN STRUGGLE — Students at Haskell Indian Junior College helped firemen as they poured thousands of gallons of water on a fire which destroyed Sacajawea Hall early this morning, (Journal-World Photo)

# THE AUXILIARY RESPONDS TO EVERY MAJOR FIRE ALARM



HOT JAVA FOR A COLD NIGHT — The ladies of the firemen's auxiliary dispense coffee to firemen at the scene of all major fires.

The temperature may dip to eight above zero, and the chill index hover near zero, or below all night. But whether it is cold or not, Lawrence firemen must answer the call when the alarm sounds. And so does the ladies of the firemen's auxiliary.

While their men fight the fire, the ladies help the men fight the cold. Through-out the long hours they stand by, as they have at all major blazes, with hot coffee, hot chocolate, doughnuts and an extra pair of gloves for the men.

The men have nothing but lavish praise for the women who make fighting the fires a little easier.

The Gamble's fire was the first run for the auxiliary which had been organized only a few months earlier in January 1970. Since then there have been many other runs

Because it helps out mainly in the case of a Major Fire, the ladies auxiliary is a unique group, it is one service organization that hopes to have as few calls as possible.

# LAWRENCE LAUNDRY FIRE — LOSS EXPECTED HIGH



Lawrence firemen battle flames and chilling temperatures in the 20's at the Lawrence Launderers and Dry Cleaners commercial laundry facility, at 10th and New Hampshire, loss estimated over \$200,000

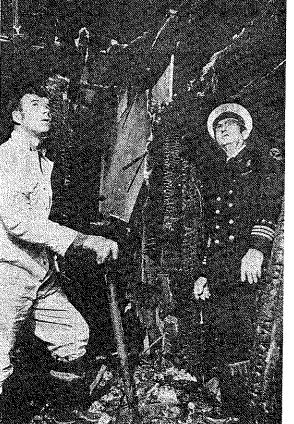
The fire department was dispatched at 11:33 p m. The fire started inside and near the front of the two-story brick building used for commercial laundry facilities

Flames were shooting out the front windows of the building by the time the first truck arrived and broke through the roof at one location

Four pumper trucks, the snorkel unit and 34 men fought the blaze for about an hour before bringing it under control.

Firemen remained at the scene until about 3 a m





FIRE AFTERMATH — Lawrence Fire Chief F C. (Fritz) Sanders, left and Larry Stemmerman, arson investigator for the fire department, check an area under the stairwell in the old public library where the fire started. Damage estimated at \$10,000

# ARSON CAUSE OF NEW YORK SCHOOL FIRE



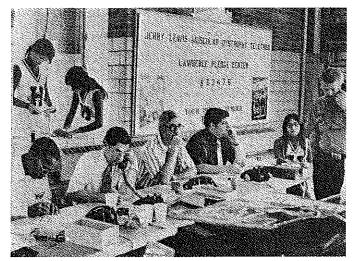
ARSONIST HITS SCHOOL — Above Bruce Nilsen, left and Merton Harmon, school district maintenance workers, examine damage to the office of the New York School

The fire was discovered at approximately 3:30 a.m. when Sgt. Charles Green, Lawrence Police Department, was on routine patrol and saw a fire in a trash can at the school. While investigating, Green noticed the door to the gymnasium slightly ajar. He opened the door and found the room full of smoke and fire.

The fire department was immediately dispatched and on the scene in 4 minutes, the fire was under control in 30 minutes and considered completely extinguished in one hour.

The arson investigator found the fire had been started in at least three different locations. The fire gutted the office area and destroyed a part of the gym. Loss caused by the fires will be over \$10,000.

# FIREMAN HAVE FIRST LAWRENCE PLEDGE CENTER



LOCAL TELETHON EFFOR I — Volunteers man the telephones at Lawrence's effort in the national Jerry Lewis Muscular Distrophy Telethon at Fire Station No. 1. The local total was \$12,015 00

### MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY WEEK PROCLAIMED BY COMMISSION

The Lawrence City Commission proclaimed the week of August 27 to September 3 as "Muscular Dystrophy Telethon Week" at the request of the Fire Department

Harold Morris and other firemen will operate the first Lawrence pledge center from September 2 until September 3 in conjunction with the Jerry Lewis nationwide Labor Day telethon

Chief Sanders invited the City Commissioners to aid the firemen and others in answering calls Reports on the progress of the Lawrence drive will be carried on Topeka and Kansas City television stations

The pledge center at fire station No 1 will be televised

Gale Sayers. Rusty Springer, Bob Pulliam. Rex Johnson and Don Shepard are among those already signed up to man the telephones

### MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY DRIVE NETS \$12,000 IN LAWRENCE

Lawrence residents pledged over \$12,000 to the Muscular Dystrophy Association of America in the annual Jerry Lewis Telethon

Harold Morris, Lawrence fireman and organizer of the first drive, said he had planned to reach \$10,000, and was "shocked — really pleased" at the final outcome.

The fire department has never announced a goal publicly, but said the group reached \$10,000 in pledges at 5:05 p m. Chief Sanders, said the pledge figure includes money collected by firemen and cheerleaders from Kansas University, Haskell Indian Junior college, and Lawrence High School.

The firemen were also giving rides to youngsters on an antique firetruck, in conjunction with the fund raising drive, the firemen had to quit using the truck's siren to get attention, some people thought it was a take-cover warning

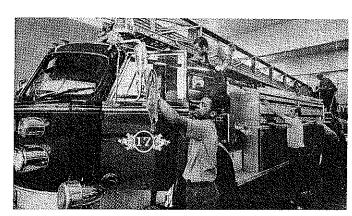


READY FOR THE RIDE — Lawrence firefighters are giving free rides to kids at the Malls Shopping Center on the old fire truck pictured here. The rides are in conjunction with the muscular dystrophy fund drive and donations are accepted for the rides. The youngsters on the fire truck are, from left, Gail Hale, David Burton, Timmy Byers. Harold Morris Jr., Tamanatha Byers, Kathy Morris, and Tim Nixon.

# LAWRENCE FIRE DEPARTMENT RECEIVES NEW 100' AERIAL



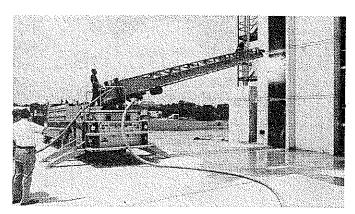
Above Scott Sales (driver) and Roy Allen (back) look over the new Aerial



Polishing, from front to back, are: Lt Larry Coleman, Gregg Crossman Capt. Monte Pearson, Lt Roy Gilliam Kenny Wyrick, and Mike Penner

ADDED FIRE PROTECTION — A crew at fire station No. 2, 19th and Haskell, put some final polishing touches on a new \$92,000 fire truck. The custom built ladder vehicle capable of reaching up 100 feet is a replacement for a 1946 truck

Two firemen (Asst Chief John Kasberger and Mech. Ralph Kendrick) drove the new vehicle 1,200 miles from Elmire, New York, to the Lawrence station

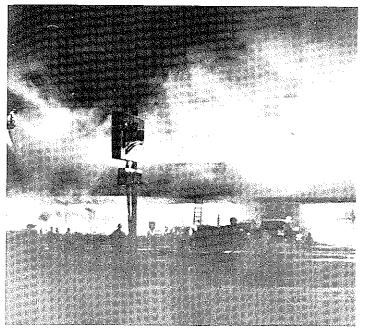


Above firemen Donald Ouderkirk (bottom) and Lawren Pringle (top of ladder) operate the New Aerial for the Commissioners

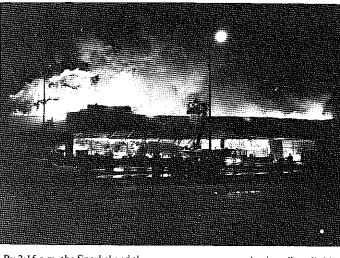
Firemen demonstrate the new aerial ladder truck for the Lawrence City Commissioners. The replacement truck has a larger engine, automatic transmission and better supports to keep it stable when the 100-foot ladder is fully extended. The Nozzle can spray 1000 gallons of water per minute, can be adjusted from a spray to a steady stream from the base of the ladder.

### \$600,000 SHOPPING CENTER FIRE

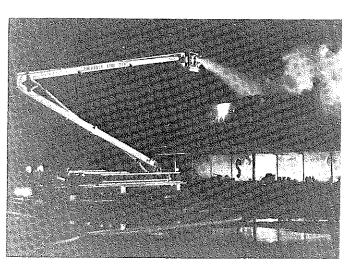
# DILLONS SUPERMARKET AND CALHON'S CLOTHING STORE



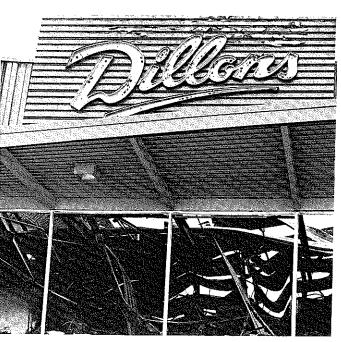
The alarm of fire came in at 2:03 a m. at 2:08 a m. the fire department arrived and started setting the Snorkel and Aerial.



By 2:15 a m the Snorkel and three pumpers were set and using all available water on the fire



By 4:20 a m., The fire was almost under control At 5:00 a m., the fire was under complete control and small fires were extinguished with hand lines



By 8:00 a.m. the fire was out and clean-up operations were under way Loss over \$600.000.00

### FIRE CHIEF F.C. "FRITZ" SANDERS RETIRES



CHIEF F.C "FRITZ" SANDERS RECALLS TWO MAJOR BLAZES

Two of the most expensive fires since Quantrill's raid occurred in Lawrence while "Fritz" Sanders headed the Lawrence Fire Department

"Fritz" Sanders reflected almost fondly upon the crises created by the burning of the Kansas Union in 1970, and the destructive blaze in 1966 in the 700 block between Massachusetts and Vermont.

The 1966 fire, he said in an interview was the one that gave him the most gray hairs, a fire that began at the Independent Laundry, then spread to the Miller Furniture Co, and the WREN building

When Chief Sanders arrived at the fire he found one of his men under a collapsed brick wall and thought he was dead However the man Doyle Headley, suffered a fractured leg and back injuries, Capt LeRoy Spence was burned quite badly and Capt Donald Knight was overcome by smoke.

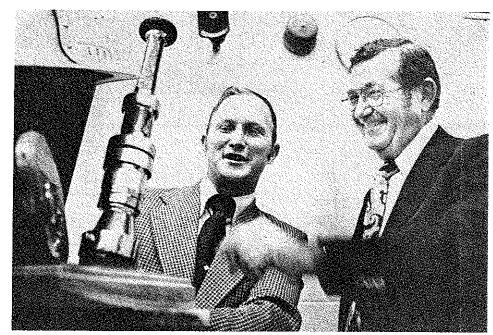
The fire caused more than \$1 million dollars damage, Sanders said. Had the fire department had more men, it might have saved one building, but the fire had such a big start a hundred men could not have saved them all.

When 'Fritz' joined the force in 1942 it had 18 men By the time he made Chief in 1960 there were 45, now there are 62 firefighters.

Advancements came rapidly for 'Fritz' in 1952 he made Captain, a rank he held only three months, in August, 1952, Chief Paul Ingles retired and was succeeded by his assistant, John W. Miller, and Sanders was appointed Assistant Chief. Eight years later, Miller retired and Sanders moved up to Chief

Time has brought several changes in the fire department in Sanders career. Equipment has been improved hours have gone from 72 to 56 a week.

When asked what he enjoyed most about his career he said 'The people I work with'



Bob Nixon, left, a Lawrence fireman gives retiring Fire Chief 'Fritz' Sanders a mounted display of his old fire hat a badge and a silver hose nozzle to 'jog his memory of days gone by.'

Taken from the Journal World

### RETIRING CHIEF RELISHES LAUGHS AS GAG GIFTS HIGHLIGHT DINNER

Hilarity and gag gifts set the mood when a crowd of 130 persons, including firemen and their wives, met in Lawrence Fire Station Two for a retirement dinner for Fire Chief F.C. "Fritz" Sanders. Firemen passed out gifts commemorating his most embarassing moments, they were a red gasoline can and a color photograph of a snorkel truck and disabled traffic light.

I guess one of the special things about being a chief is that you can get away with things no one else can. One of the things Fritz got away with is that he's the only Chief I've ever heard of who ran out of gas on the way to a fire The snorkel photograph stemmed from the time Sanders was eager to try out the new truck and took it for a ride down Massachusetts street. The boom stuck out further than on most trucks, and as he rounded the corner at 11th and Massachusetts, he picked up a traffic light with the boom.



### JOHN KASBERGER APPOINTED CHIEF

The City Manager appointed John Kasberger Chief of the Lawrence Fire Department effective November 15, 1974

In a statement the City Manager said "John Kasberger has been with the department since 1942, he was appointed Assistant Chief on August 1, 1952, and with over 20 years experience as Assistant Chief John Kasberger will make the City of Lawrence an excellent Chief".

FIRE HOUSE COOKING — There are not many galloping gourmets on the department but on Sunday mornings there is always a smile on every face at least after breakfast Above 4 members of "X" Shift are engaged in their pastime. Left to right — Lt L Stemmerman, P Leonard D Stoffer and J Scruggs

#### FIRE DEPARTMENT MECHANIC



RALPH KENDRICK JR. is the fire department mechanic At left he is working on a power stearing pump. just one of his many jobs.

#### FIRE STATION TOURS



Station tours are almost a weekly occurrence at the fire station, and a welcome one. The men are very proud of their stations and are always willing to show them off

### FIRE DEPARTMENT SECRETARY



ALICE FOWLER is the first woman ever assigned to the fire department. Alice was assigned over a year ago, since that time she has become so accustomed to the bells ringing men running and sirens wailing that she just keeps right on typing as if nothing was going on.

# LADIES AUXILIARY AND THE JAYCEES BESTOW GIFTS ON THE DEPARTMENT



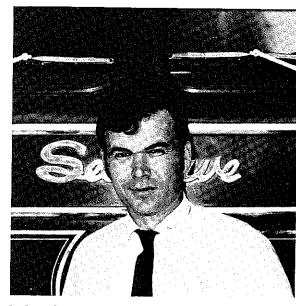
Above Norma Nixon Pres Ladies Auxiliary presents Capt M. Pearson with one of three Manual Resuscitators donated by the auxiliary. The bagmasks have been used in saving lives on many occasions Once again the ladies are there when needed



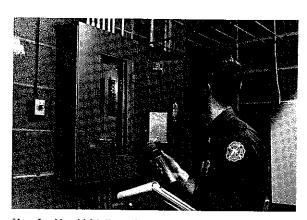
V/Pres of the Jaycees donate a Tape Recorder. Camera and Flash Attachment to the Arson and Inspection Department Left to right — D. Anderson, Lt. L. Stemmerman, and Chief J. Kasberger.

### FIRE PREVENTION, INSPECTION, ARSON INVESTIGATION

#### Fire Inspection Bureau



Lt Larry Stemmerman — who heads the inspection department also doubles as Chief Arson Investigator.



Here Lt Harold Mallonee is checking out an electrical system.



Lt. Roy Gilliam checks the tags on fire extinguishers, in his normal inspections of local business.

#### Arson Investigation



Fire scene investigation whether arson or accidental, finding the cause of a fire is a proven way of preventing a re-occurence. More than seventy investigations have been conducted since this division was put into operation.

The Lawrence Fire Department continues to provide professional fire protection and maintain a low risk/low rate Class 4 fire insurance rating. To obtain this level of service, fire prevention and firefighting have been the principal objectives of the department. The sirens, lights, and dramatic action associated with firefighting is often more appealing to the general public, however the often invisible prevention measures has produced a return in fewer fires and greater safety.

### KEEPING READY IS

#### FIRE FIGHTERS — BETWEEN FIRES



Here Lt Nixon gives classes on the Scott air pack

Here Lt. Beckner goes over the monthly

Problem in Hydraulics - some rather

complicated math is involved in regulating

pressure on a pumper truck. Here, Lt Co-

leman prepares problems for monthly test-

and quarterly tests



Firm grip — firemen Jim Lee handles a powerful hose for a training project.



Here Capt Findley explains hydraulic problems to his shift



A fireman never gets enough First Aid training Here Capt R Colemen demonstrates proper method of bandaging

The bright red truck, the flashing red lights, the siren, have always held an excitement for everyone, from childhood up

It's a glamorous job, with risks and some furious fights, but the less glamorous part, training, getting ready, keeping ready, and advancing in the ranks probably isn't as well understood.

In those quiet hours between fire runs there is other work to be done — study, classwork, tests, not to mention maintenance chores and duties about the fire station

In fact, it's possible there may be a sense of escape at times, when there's a fire to go to.

And there's a sense of camaraderie among the men—common to men in uniform, who face a common danger together.

In order to explain their work a little better, views on this page show the men at some of their training duties



Lt Beckner holds a class on the proper

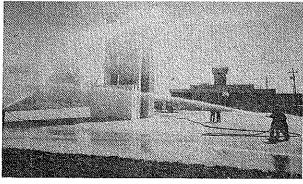


Here, Lt Beckner gives Fireman Scott Sales a hand at setting the proper measure on the gauges

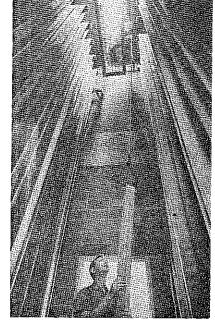
### HALF THE BATTLE



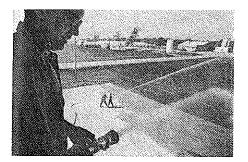
Fireman Mechanic R. Kendrick explains just how the 100' ladder is used



Here, firemen are having a ball fight — In this drill a aluminum ball which tracks on a suspended cable gives firemen an interesting target as they practice handling high pressure hose Object of "game" is to see which team can advance ball greatest distance in opposite direction. Occasionally the winning team gets backed off when stream "accidentally" misses ball and hits them.



Hose tower, firemen Carl Myer and D Stoffer (at top) hangup clean hose to dry in heated hose tower



Fireman L. Pringle adjusts pressure on his hose as he plays stream from the 80 foot high training tower On ground are D Stoffer and J Renick

Firemen spread out to their assigned duties as they run an exercise from pumper truck Looking east from training tower. Fire

Station No. 2, with Mini Plaza in back-

ground



Here Lt Stemmerman gives fire extinguisher classes to a local nursing home

### NOT ALL TRAINING IS PERFORMED AT THE STATION



Fireman Joseph Thibodeau explains the proper method of carrying the elderly patients from the home

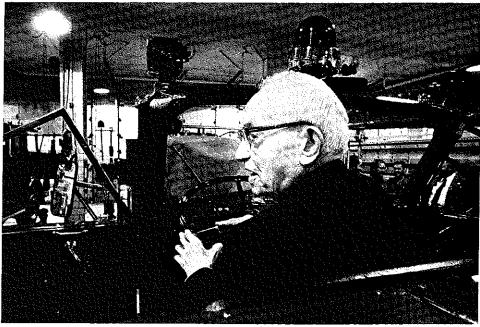


Iraining on a real house fire Photos at top and bottom show a house that was scheduled to be torn down is donated to the fire department for training purposes.



### RETIRED FIRE CHIEF RETURNS AFTER 23

Taken from the Journal World and Fire Dept. Records:



Above Ret Chief Ingles sits in Truck 17-A They've added some lights and equipment but otherwise the station's oldest pumper truck is the same as when he left in 1952

Ret Chief Ingles is 86 now. He walks slowly and speaks with an effort. But neither age nor infirmity kept him from a tour of the station, and a hop in his favorite pumper truck.

He came bearing gifts. An old, but unscratched white helmet, his badge and a scrapbook of momentoes were donated to the firefighters archives.

With the aid of his scrapbook and a knife-sharp memory, he recently led a small gathering of firefighters on a hit-and-miss trip through his firefighting days.

His career, in the retelling, was marked with many demands: Ingles described a day when fires had to be battled on their own terms and fire safe materials were few.

The department evolved from a step above the bucket bri-

gade to a mechanized and sophisticated firefighting unit in Ingles 40 years of service. He saw the transition from the horse-drawn chief's buggy to the engine-run pumper unit that drew water out of a city hydrant in powerful bursts. While the trucks were nice, he said, the horses were missed when mechanization took over, Five four-legged friends were sold — four to the Army and one to a feed store owner.

The horses were well trained, when the alarm rang, those horses ran under their collars and all we had to do was snap them on. We had a 17-second record to touch the alarm, come downstairs, hook up the horses and go

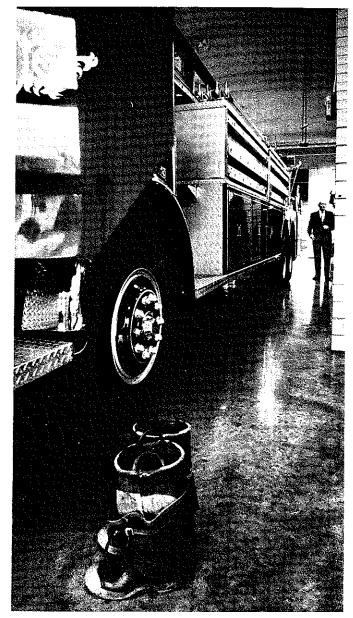
Like an old firefighter, firehorse never learned to ignore the alarm. Much to the chagrin of the feed store owner, who purchased Rocky the animal assigned for years to the chief's buggy, occasionally took off to the station when he heard the alarm sound.

### YEARS WITH GIFTS AND RECOLLECTIONS

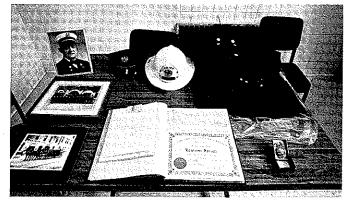
In the audience listening to Ret Chief Ingles were a couple of youngsters he hired in the early 1940's: Chief John Kasberger and Assistant Chief LeRoy Spence.

Chief Ingles said "I hired this boy, pointing a finger at the now Chief Kasberger You know a lot of the boys I hired became heads of the department. It's nice to know your work wasn't wasted"

The firefighters were something, too. For years the volunteers brought home more money per month than the three paid monthly men did, the monthly salary was \$50.00. The hours were enough to make today's unions cringe. Ingles spent days and nights for 40 years at the station, visiting his wife and home twice a day expect New Year's Day when he took several hours to lunch with relatives in Eudora



Ret. Chief Ingles takes his first look at the new 100' Aerial Truck



A badge that last saw service 20 years ago, photographs from earlier staffs and well-preserved uniform pieces surround a scrap book of clippings and letters donated by Ingles to the firefighters archives

### LAWRENCE KANSAS







Lt. Larry Coleman

Robert Burton



Lt. Roy Gilliam

Timothy Byers



Capt Robert Coleman

Lt Harold Mallonee

Gregory Crossman

Allen Johnson



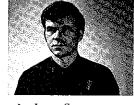
Capt Paul Findley



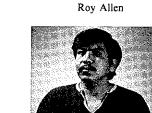
Capt. Donald Knight



Lt. Robert Nixon



Lt. Larry Stemmerman

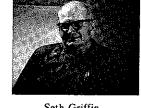


I heodore Franklin



Emmanuel Gauna

James Lee



Seth Griffin





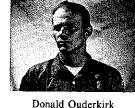


Lloyd Hammerschmidt





David Hatfield

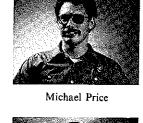


Doyle Headley

Dennis Stone



Max Strunk



Tommy Teague





Joseph Thibodeau

### FIRE DEPARTMENT

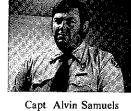


LeRoy Spence



Capt Lawrence Pearson



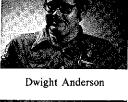


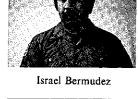


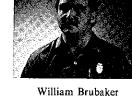
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Lt Donald Beckner













Thomas Harmon





Clifford Smith



Carl Torneden

John Renick



Thomas Sales

James Tucker



Edward Sangster

Arthur Turner

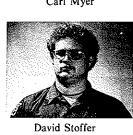


John Scruggs

James Underwood



Kenneth Wyrick





John Kasberger







Richard Curtiss



Donald Knight Jr



Ralph Kendrick



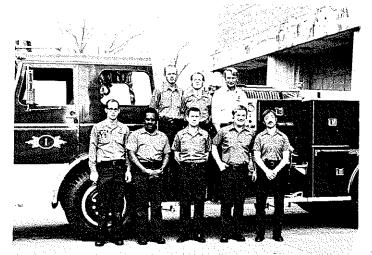
### FIRE STATION NO. 1



X" SHIFT — Left to right (back row) Phil Leonard Ralph Kendrick Jr, Lt. Larry Stemmerman. David Stoffer, James Lee. (front row) Allen Johnson, Isreal Bermudez, Roy Allen Not in Photo — Capt Donald Knight, John Scruggs

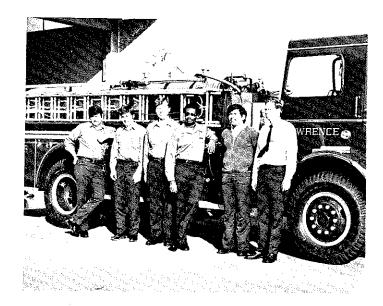


"Y' SHIFT — Left to right Oscar Burton, Amos Hale, Iheodore Franklin. Carl Torneden Lt Harold Mallonee. Edward Sangster, Clifford Smith, Lawren Pringle, Capt Robert Coleman



"Z" SHIFT — Left to right (back row) Donald Ouderkirk, Michael Lindeman, Capt. Walter Parmer, (front row) Richard Curtis, Ronald Lee, John Renick, Lloyd Hammerschmidt, Tommy Teague Not in Photo — Lt. Roy Gilliam

### FIRE STATION NO. 2



"X" SHIFT — Left to right Joseph Ihibodeau, Donald Knight Jr, Daniel Morrow. Arthur Turner. Emmanuel Gauna, Capt Paul Findley. Not in Photo Lt Donald Beckner

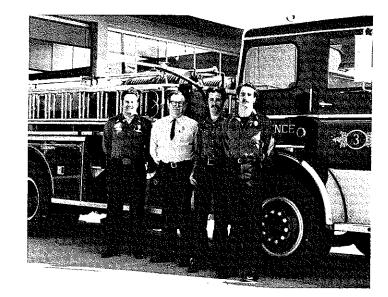


"Y' SHIFT — Left to right Lt Robert Nixon, Dwight Anderson, William Brubaker. Max Strunk. Michael Price. Capt. James Prentice, Carl Myer

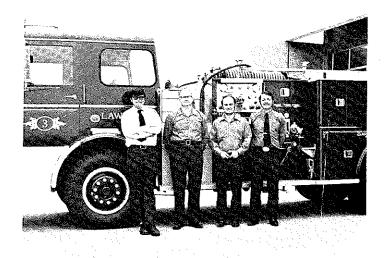


"Z" SHIFT — Left to right Capt. Lawrence Pearson, David Hatfield, Lt Larry Coleman. Kenneth Wyrick Michael Penner, James Tucker, Dennis Stone.

### FIRE STATION NO. 3



"X" SHIFT — Left to right Doyle White Capt Lee Burns. I homas Harmon, Thomas Sales



"Y" SHIFT — Left to right Capt. Zenith Clemmons Doyle Headley Timothy Byers James Underwood



"Z" SHIFT — Left to right Gregory Crossman. Robert Burton, Seth Griffin. Capt. Alvin Samuels



Phil Leonard History Dept.

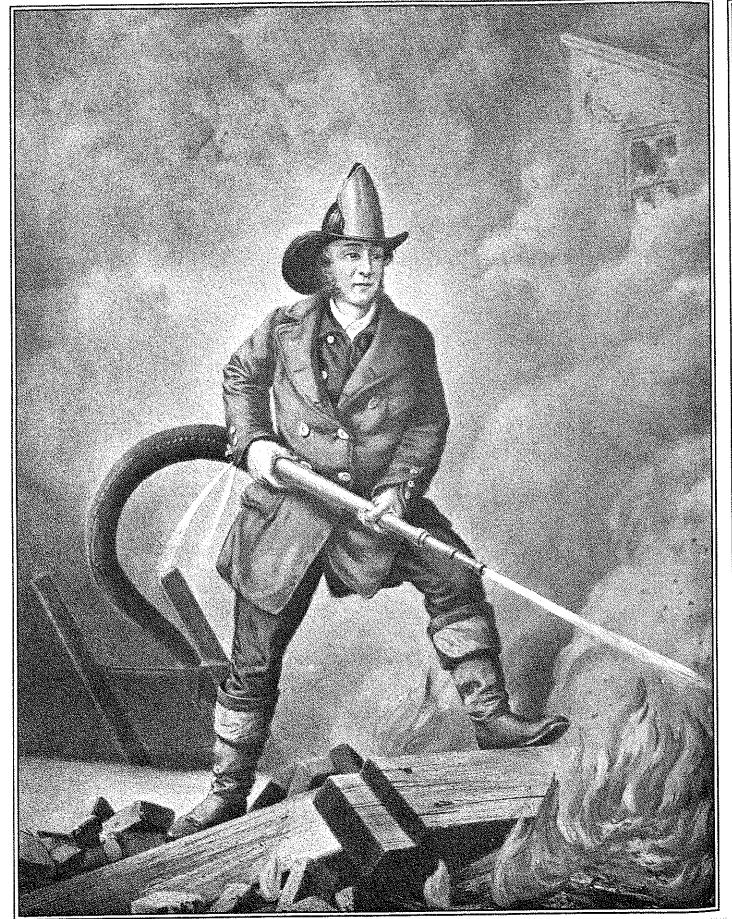
### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

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It is this writer's hopes that someone in the future will again update what I have written to preserve our heritage.

Phil Leonard





THE AMERICAN FIREMAN,
Facing the Enemy

THE AMERICAN FIREMAN,

Prompt to the Rescue