

REPORT OF STATISTICIAN

Albert W. Brinson

Mr. President, Fellow Firemen:

I think I would be a sorry statistician if I did not tell you this in regard to my report. There is one thing in connection with this, while we are thinking along the line of these reports. Some Fire Chifs probably don't realize what they are doing in respect to the State law requiring you to report every fire and fire loss beyond twenty-five dollars. I happen to take home every year from the office of the Insurance Commissioner, who has been so nice in supplying me with material to go in my report, many hundreds of reports. Many towns were not represented in those reports. The law says that you, as fire chiefs, should report that fire, and if the Insurance Commissioner don't get the report I don't get it, and I want to call your attention to that fact—it is very important, and it is the law that you should report these losses beyond twenty-five dollars.

Another thing injected in the report is that I have tried to recognize which years the towns have had months with no fire loss. That is quite an honor to your City to have months without any fire loss. In connection with these reports, if you chiefs would sign the blank the Insurance Commissioner often sends you for this information that we have had no fires whatever month it might be it would be a great help. You can use a postcard or anything, and send it to the Insurance Commissioner's office. He will appreciate it and I will appreciate it, and will be glad to recognize the fact that you have had no losses during that period of time.

Allow me to thank you Harry for your suggestion that I not read all of this report.

I have secured a lot of information from the National Government and from various towns throughout the State, and anything that you wish included in your report, whomever your statistician may be in the future, if you will just send the report in you will be in the report, and you will be recognized for doing a nice job I know.

I am happy to be here. Thank you one and all.

REPORT OF STATISTICIAN

President Wallace and Fellow Firemen, Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen:

It is a happy privilege and pleasure to submit my sixteenth statistician's report of statistics and fire happenings in the Fire Service of North Carolina for the year 1955. Another year has passed since the association was guest in the old friendly city of New Bern, by the enchanting waters of the Trent and Neuse. The New Bern Fire Department, headed by Chief Albert Stocks and more than 110 volunteer firemen were hosts to the sixty-eighth

annual convention of the North Carolina State Firemen's Association, in spite of Diane's visit to our convention on the last day's session.

We are here assembled attending the sixty-ninth annual convention in our friendly capital city, with Chief Jack Keeter and his efficient firemen as hosts to the firemen of North Carolina. Raleigh Fire Department entertained the second convention of our association in 1889, the fifteenth in 1902, the twenty-ninth in 1916, the forty-ninth in 1936, and now our sixty-ninth. I want to take this opportunity to congratulate Chief Keeter, his officers, firemen, the city officials, and the citizens of Raleigh for the splendid new headquarters building, along with the other stations they have contributed to the Raleigh Fire Department.

IN MEMORIAM: William Hendrix Palmer, former Chief of the Charlotte Fire Department, died August 27, 1955, in a Charlotte hospital. His funeral was held on Sunday, August 29. The Reverend James Rink of Memorial Methodist Church, Charlotte, officiated. Burial was in Sharon Memorial Park. Serving as active pallbearers were E. M. O'Herron, Joe Monroe, Harry Curlee, Dr. Claude B. Squires, J. W. Bennick, and A. W. Sims.

Honorary pallbearers included the uniformed officers and men of the Charlotte Fire Department, members of the Shrine Divan and past potentates of Oasis Temple of the Shrine, and Dr. A. M. McDonald, C. M. Griswold, and Kenlon Brockwell. Also Dr. T. C. Bost, Dr. John Ranson, Jr., all of Charlotte. J. L. Croom of Wilmington, Sherwood Brockwell, Jr., of Southern Pines, John L. Miller of Concord, Ed A. Johnson of Kannapolis, Albert W. Brinson of New Bern, Cosmo L. Cox of Durham, W. E. Holland of Raleigh, J. C. Fitzgerald of Asheville, A. Y. Cottrell of Lenoir, Charles Burkett of Salisbury, and John C. Wallace of Troy.

Chief Palmer joined the Charlotte fire department October 1, 1904 and retired in May 1948. During his 44 years with the department he held every job in the organization except that of superintendent of the fire alarm system.

Chief Palmer designed and promoted the manufacture of the first enclosed fire truck in America. This equipment is now uniform throughout the nation. In 1941 he was elected President of the International Fire Chiefs' Association, the highest honor within the North American fire service.

Born in York County, South Carolina, July 10, 1884 Chief Palmer was the son of the late James Patrick and Alice Stedman Palmer. He had spent the greater part of his life in Charlotte. His wife, the former Miss Idelette Alexander, died January 27, 1955.

Chief Palmer served two terms as president of the North Carolina State Firemen's Association and promoted the organization of the North Carolina Fire Chiefs' Association, of which he

was named the first president. For eleven years he served as president of that organization. He was also a director of the Southeastern Fire Chiefs' Association.

The North Carolina Fire College and Training School, which has become a model for fire departments throughout the country, was organized by Chief Palmer and the late Sherwood Brockwell, then State Fire Marshal. Chief Palmer also organized a training school for members of the Charlotte fire department and promoted the construction of the fire school building on East Seventh Street, which was named the Palmer Fire School in his honor.

Chief Palmer was instrumental in organizing the Shrine Bowl Football game, which is played in Charlotte annually for the benefit of the Shriners' Crippled Children's Hospital at Greenville, South Carolina.

During World War II, Chief Palmer was a representative of the nation's fire chiefs on the National Civilian Defense Committee. He was a prominent leader of the Shrine organization and was potentate of Oasis Temple.

Hendrix Palmer will be missed by the firemen of North Carolina and was loved by all firefighters who had the privilege of knowing this great, friendly fireman.

FIRE PREVENTION AWARDS AND HONORABLE MENTION IN NATIONAL FIRE PREVENTION AND CLEANUP CAMPAIGN FOR 1955: The National Fire Prevention of Boston, sponsor, is a non-profit educational and engineering organization devoted to improving the protection of life and property from fire in the United States, Canada, and all countries where our armed services are located. Fire Prevention Week started as Fire Prevention Day. It was first observed throughout the United States on October 9, 1911. It began when the Fire Marshals' Association of North America (now a section of the National Fire Protective Association) suggested that the 40th anniversary of the great Chicago fire (October 9, 1871) be set apart for bringing before the public the much needed lesson of fire protection. In 1920, President Woodrow Wilson issued the first National Fire Prevention Day proclamation. But it was not until 1922 that the whole week including Fire Prevention Day was officially proclaimed Fire Prevention Week by President Harding. He urged that it be observed "by every man, woman, and child, not only during the week designated in this pronouncement but throughout every hour of every day of the year." Traditionally, therefore, Fire Prevention Week is observed each year during the calendar week which includes October 9, the anniversary date of the Great Chicago Fire.

The Grand Awards went to Philadelphia, with Kentville, Nova Scotia placing second (based on Fire Prevention Week activities). First five cities of Ranking of Top United States Communities

(270 entries) in Grand Award competition, follow:

1. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. 2. Memphis, Tennessee. 3. Louisville, Kentucky. 4. Hartford, Connecticut, and 5. Providence, Rhode Island. North Carolina ranking in Municipal Division United States Community Rankings: Fayetteville placed first, High Point 2nd, and Rocky Mount and Greensboro tied for 3rd. Fort Bragg placed 4th in the Grand Awards on the Government Division United States Army, the 1st having gone to Anniston Ordnance Department, Alabama, 2nd to Presidio of San Francisco, California, with Valley Forge Army Hospital, Pennsylvania winning 3rd.

INTERCHAMBER NATIONAL FIRE WASTE CONTEST, 1955: The grand winner award for 1955 was won by Richland, Washington; Class Winners: Class I San Antonio, Texas; Class II, Dayton, Ohio and Louisville, Kentucky tied; Class III, Hartford, Connecticut; Class IV, Portland, Maine; Class V, Wausau, Wisconsin; and Class VI, West Milwaukee, Wisconsin. North Carolina "Honor Award" winners Greensboro 4th in Class IV; Salisbury 4th in Class V. I wish to express my congratulations to you, Moon and Charlie, and your firemen for your winnings and recognition in the Inter-Chamber National Fire Waste Contest for 1955. Charlie Burkett writes me that this last National Award makes 24 National Awards that the Salisbury Fire Department has received. Charlie, I doubt if any other department can match your record.

FAYETTEVILLE - HIGH POINT - WINSTON-SALEM - JAYCEE WINNERS: Chief Claude S. Canady of High Point advises me that Fayetteville won first place in JayCees 1955 Fire Prevention Contest, High Point won second, and Winston-Salem won third. In the 1954 contest High Point won first place with Fayetteville winning second.

TOWNS AND CITIES HAVING NO FIRES OR HAVING NO LOSS OVER \$25 FOR SEVERAL MONTHS: Aberdeen 9 months; Asheboro 7; Candor 2; Canton 3; Carthage 1; Chapel Hill 1; China Grove 3; Claremont 1; Clyde 9; Concord 3; Davidson 1; Dobson 10; Fair Bluff 10; Fairmont 7; Granite Quarry 10; Gibson 4; Gibsonville—Reported no fires for 1954 and no fires for 4 months of 1955; Goldsboro 1 month; Greenville 1; Hazelwood 1; Jacksonville 6; Kinston 1; Laurinburg 1; Lexington 1; Madison 9; Mebane 10; Mocksville 4; Morganton 4; Murfreesboro 7; Pinehurst 5; Pikeville 2; Pinetops 4; Reidsville 1; Rockwell 7; Salisbury 8; Spencer 7; Stanley 2; St. Paul 8; Thomasville 1; and Wrightsville Beach 3 months.

These are based on chiefs of these departments having advised the Insurance Commissioner's office of the fact that their departments had no fires for this number of months. Why doesn't your town do the same so it can be recognized?

NEW MEMBERSHIP AND GROWTH IN OUR ASSOCIATION: Secretary Curtis H. Flanagan has advised me that the following

fire departments became members of the North Carolina State Firemen's Association during the past year:

Fire Department, Dublin, Chief C. E. Cleveland, 17 members.

Icard Township Department, Chief Harold Perry, 16 members.

Highlands Fire Department, Chief C. E. Cleveland, 21 members.

Beeson Cross Roads Fire Department, Chief V. E. Idol, Route 1, Kernersville, 22 members.

Newell Fire Department, Chief Baxter Caldwell, 51 members.

Vienna Fire Department, Pfafftown, Chief Marvin Wilson, 22 members.

Union Fire Department, Route 8, Salisbury, Chief M. C. Boyer, 16 members.

We are happy to welcome these 165 firemen, from the 7 towns and counties listed above, into our association. Curtis says the association has 291 active departments and 10 inactive departments. He also says we now have as of July, 9,410 membership in our great North Carolina State Firemen's Association.

NATIONAL FIRE LOSS IN LIFE AND PROPERTY: Mr. Robert W. Schuette, Manager, Public Relations Department of the National Fire Protection Association, advises me that the National Fire Protection Association estimates that the fire fatalities of men, women and children in the United States for the year of 1955 was 11,475. These are estimated figures. This means that 956 lives were lost every month in the year 1955 in the United States. The solution to reduce this loss of lives by the Fire Demon is practice more efficient fire prevention.

The United States fire loss of property for the year 1954 was estimated by the National Fire Protection Association as \$1,026,200,000. Mr. Schutte advises me that of the above estimated total fire loss \$876,200,000 was damage to buildings and contents plus \$150,000,000 loss in aircraft, motor vehicles, forest, and other fires not involving buildings.

It is surely gratifying to note that we had a decrease of \$15,200,000 in 1955 over the year 1954 in our great nation. No doubt the nationwide fire protection programs are responsible for this decrease in loss.

FIRE TOLLS OF LIVES FOR NORTH CAROLINA: Mr. Charles R. Council, Chief Public Health Statistics Division, State Board of Health, advises me that the North Carolina death tolls for the year 1955 including protected, unprotected cities, towns, and rural areas, was 124 deaths by conflagration (in burning buildings). This I am pleased to say was 6 less deaths than in 1954. His report gives 93 deaths from fire and explosion of combustible material (other than conflagration). This is 13 more deaths from fire and explosion than in 1954, I am sorry to have to report. There were 21 deaths from hot substance, corrosive liquid and steam. This is 7 more deaths from the above cause. These figures give us a total

of 238 accidental deaths caused by or related to fire in the year 1955, which was 14 more deaths than in 1954. We must increase our Fire Prevention with more vigor than ever before in order to reduce these deaths from the Fire Demon, who is on the alert 24 hours every day in the year, in North Carolina and all over the world.

DEATHS FROM AIRCRAFT ACCIDENTS: The Bureau of Public Health Statistics Section of the North Carolina Board of Health advises me of 19 deaths in 1955 of personnel in military aircraft one death accident at airfield to person not in aircraft, and 14 deaths other than unspecified aircraft accidents. The total deaths from airplane accidents for the year 1955 was 37; this was two less than in 1954 and 18 less than 1953. The Bureau reports there were no deaths of occupants of commercial aircraft for 1955 in North Carolina. There is no way I can ascertain how many of these aircraft deaths were involved in fires. The low mortality of plane accidents in North Carolina year in and year out is a good indication that travel by air is becoming more and more safe as the years go by.

NORTH CAROLINA FIRE LOSS: Information furnished your statistician by Mr. Sherman Pickard, Deputy Fire Marshal, advises that since the actual fire loss figures are not available the figures below represent a per-premium dollar collected loss ratio of 48.5%. Again assuming the National Board figures of 33 1-3% as representing the uninsured losses in the United States and the records of the Rating Bureau indicate that 46.6% of the property is covered by stock companies and 19.9% is covered by Mutuals and others. Assuming the loss ratio to be the same for stock companies and other companies per premium dollar collected the estimated fire loss for the State of North Carolina for 1955 is \$20,787,709. The figures broken down are as follows:

Stock companies collected \$22,500,000 in premiums for 1955. Mutual companies collected \$9,642,850 in premiums for 1955. The loss ratio per premium dollar collected was 48% which gives a loss of \$15,589,282 suffered by stock and mutual companies.

The 33 1-3% uninsured loss would equal \$5,196,427. These figures totaled will equal \$20,785,709. Mr. Pickard checked with Mr. Fred Chambers, Actuary of the Insurance Department and he agrees that this figure will not be far wrong for the estimated fire loss for North Carolina for 1955.

I am very happy to report that the above estimated fire loss of \$20,785,709 for North Carolina, by Mr. Pickard, shows a decline of \$20,443,479, or approximately half of the estimated loss the department furnished to me for 1954. If the formula is figured correctly then we can say with happy hearts, that our long years of Fire Prevention, Fire College and Drill Schools, Fire Pump

School, and many other Fire Schools throughout North Carolina have paid off in the year 1955. We can also include the improved fire fighting equipment that has been added throughout the state since the closing of World War II. Let's keep up the good work, is your statistician's desire.

UNUSUAL FIRES: Smoking in bed, died on bed.

Poured gasoline on hot exhaust pipe—damage \$750.

Smoking in bed—damage \$2047.

Child playing with matches—\$256.

Bucket of hot ashes left on porch—damage \$2585.

Starting fire with gasoline, one person burned to death—damage \$1600.

Oil stove fire, one Laura Snead burned to death—damage to house \$2250.

Child threw kerosene on coal stove, results: Coleman Steele cut on right arm, Jessie Steele burned from waist down, Jackie Steele cut middle of right hand, Anthony Adams third degree burns both hands, Will Clover internal burns—damage to building \$1500.

Men fighting in dwelling knocked over oil stove starting fire, late reporting fire and it spread to house next door—damage \$2250.

Tree limb over chimney caught, sparks set roof on fire—loss \$2,701.

Miss Pritchard, age 55, burned about face—inhaled smoke getting car out of garage, died 4 days later. Damage to property \$500.

Children playing with matches in garage—damage \$1,316.

Careless handling acetylene torch ignited gasoline, set garage on fire—loss \$26,678.

Auto ran over gasoline pump, caught fire—loss \$467.

Careless handling gasoline—damage \$1,000.

Playing cards in cotton gin room, using candles—damage \$275.

Boys smoking in barn—damage \$1,100.

Penny behind fuse, electric short caused cafe and apartment fire—loss \$19,000.

Incendiarism—city hall and jail—damage \$40.

Christmas tree fire—damage \$200.

Careless use of workman's torch while repairing machine—loss \$4250.

Two highly intoxicated men believed caused fire from cigarette smoking, both suffocated, property loss \$19,000.

Children set grass afire around house—damage \$1,325.

Louis G. Sherman smoking in hotel bed, suffocated, damage to room \$800.

A trailer loaded with furniture caught fire while sitting at loading platform—loss \$986.

Walter Little convicted of arson, setting fire to a rooming house—damage \$800.

Occupant emptied hot ashes into paper box—loss \$1,204.

Children playing with matches—loss \$4,200.

Arson—eleven-year-old schoolboy admitted setting school building on fire—damage \$56.

Children building fire set house on fire—damage \$2,400.

Short in Christmas lights Y.W.C.A.—loss \$1,500.

Light bulb too close to combustibles—loss \$8,500.

Hot grease from barbecued pigs ignited—loss \$2,150.

Spraying fuel oil under house for termites caused explosion—loss \$1,300.

Nail driven through electric light wire—loss \$1,750.

Hot ashes on porch—loss \$3,250.

Six-year-old child playing with fire—died next day, damage to house \$125.

Poured kerosene from 5 gallon can into hot ashes—can exploded, burned 7 people badly.

Short circuit in motor, burned dairy barn—loss \$40,000.

Thawing water pipes with burning newspaper—loss \$600.

Careless operation of oil cook range—loss \$1,662.

CAUSES OF FIRES IN NORTH CAROLINA: As in the past defective stoves, furnaces, chimneys, and flues led in known causes of fires with 37.07% and a monetary cost of \$1,197,696 loss. Electrical—wiring, motors, and appliances—held second place with 20.1% and \$648,546 destruction. Spontaneous ignition placed third for 1955 with 8.1% of the fires and \$262,529 loss. Careless smoking and matches dropped to fourth position, causing only 7.9% of the fires and damaging and destroying \$255,677 worth of property. Lightning with fire following drew a heavy toll—\$165,964 loss from "acts of God." These figures would have been much higher had not you firemen been so prompt in reaching and putting out the flames. The lowest loss from any known cause was .03% with \$960 damage caused by explosions with fire following.

FIRES CAUSING LOSS OF \$20,000 AND OVER: It is most gratifying to be able to report 11 less fires of \$20,000 and over for 1955 than for 1954, and it is with added pleasure that I can report a decrease of \$1,588,313 in loss from the \$5,436,965 for the year 1954. The 1955 loss of \$3,848,652 is less than one-half the loss for 1953, and just about three-fourths that for 1954. May we firemen of North Carolina continue the struggle against our common enemy—Fire—and protect the property and lives of the people in our great State.

This list, no doubt, is incomplete as a number of fire chiefs are still not turning in reports for all fires of \$25 and over. The state department and your statistician can only compile the number of fires and losses from the reports turned in to the Insurance Commissioner's office.

The large fires reported for 1955 are as follows:

Asheville—Hans Rees Sons, cause undetermined \$34,869.

Benson—Parrish Ford Dealer, cause undetermined \$30,000.

Charlotte — Royal Manufacturing Co. spontaneous combustion \$35,150; Auditorium and National Guard quarters, unknown \$334,307; residence, unknown \$27,000; Blythe Construction Co. warehouse, unknown \$25,000; Boars Head Restaurant—suspected arson \$44,467; Southern Railway freight depot—cause decomposition of nitro cellulose picture film \$540,000.

Clinton—Tobacco warehouse and storage, unknown \$83,000; Cliton Truck and Tractor Co., Newman Cotton Picker and Storage, Tom Stevens, Arthur Hines, and George Newkirk, exposure to the above tobacco warehouse, combined loss \$51,000.

Clyde—Jarrett Williamson, unknown \$24,000.

Davidson—Morre Theater, overheated heating system \$20,000.

Dunn—Godwin Building Supply Co., thought caused by sanding machine \$40,000.

Durham—Kimbrell Furniture Co., undetermined \$60,000; Matthews & Farrow Co., gasoline ignited from acetylene torch \$26,678.

Edenton—Albemarle Peanut Co., unknown \$50,000; Leary Bros., Storage, unknown \$29,987.

Elizabeth City—Economy Auto Supply Co., \$70,000; Evans & Etheridge and others, cause unknown \$24,000; Atlantic Discount Corporation, Carolina Amusement Co., and others, cause unknown \$32,500.

Erwin—Erwin Mills, Inc., cause unknown \$185,000.

Forest City—Unknown \$21,500.

Goldsboro—Wayne Poultry Co., careless smoking \$46,000.

Greenville—Appliance Store, unknown \$29,246.

Henderson—Chrysler & Plymouth Auto dealer, faulty oil furnace \$50,857.

Highlands—Lightning \$23,350; Recreation Building, cause gas heater or electric heater \$24,500.

High Point—Carson's, Inc., cause unknown \$30,000.

Kinston—Standard Drug Co. No. 1, unknown \$21,000.

Lenoir—Hilbritten Chair Co., cause unknown \$40,000; Fred W. Laufesske Drug Co., cause unknown \$20,000.

Lexington—Yarbrough Hosiery Mill, cause unknown \$60,000.

Maiden—Flour Mills, unknown \$60,000; Farmers' Federation, unknown \$70,000.

Mocksville—Young Fur Co., spontaneous combustion \$35,000.

Monroe—Cotton warehouse, spontaneous combustion, \$25,000.

Murfreesboro—Undetermined \$50,000.

New Bern—Railroad freight depot, cause unknown \$111,000.

Newport—Saw Mill and Store, carelessness \$75,000.

Pikeville—Medical Supply Co., unknown \$35,494.

Pittsboro—Parsonage, furnace \$30,000.

Raleigh—Newton Laundry, cause unknown \$32,000.

Roxboro—Redrying plant, oil heater \$70,000.

Sanford—Makepiece Millwork Co., unknown \$200,000.

Statesville—Piedmont Lumber Co., unknown \$108,235.

Thomasville—North State Manufacturing Co., unknown \$35,000. Cannon Mills, unknown \$37,500; High Point Paper Box Co., unknown \$125,000.

Washington—Griffin Dairy, short circuit \$40,000; Taylor Farm Implement Co., unknown \$87,000.

Winston-Salem—Briggs-Shoffner Co., undetermined \$50,000; Residence, undetermined \$21,600; Dewey's Bakery and others, spontaneous combustion \$127,412; Johnson & Cotton Furniture Manufacturing Supplies, overheated motor \$80,500; Bare Ball Pork, careless smoker \$30,500.

Wrightsville Beach—Summer hotel, cause unknown \$150,000; Residence, cause unknown \$20,000.

CHURCH FIRES FOR 1955: There were 15 church fires reported by the fire chiefs of North Carolina in 1955. The total estimated loss as reported for the 15 fires was \$246,265. Charlotte reported having 6 of the 15, Fayetteville reported 2 and the following cities reported one each: Durham, Elizabeth City, Elm City, Fremont, Gastonia, Whitakers, and Raleigh. The reasons the chiefs gave as causes of these fires were: 6 unknown, 3 overheated furnaces, 1 carelessness, 1 spontaneous combustion, 1 grass fire, 1 candles, 1 electric shortage, and 1 defective motor.

SCHOOL FIRES: The Director, Mr. Thomas B. Winborne, Division of Insurance State Board of Education, was again this year very cooperative in furnishing me the following information on school fires and loss in 1955. The Division of Insurance is carrying insurance on 96 of the 174 administrative school units—64 county and 32 city units in North Carolina.

Below I list the name of school unit and amount of loss which occurred during the year 1955:

Prospect School (Old), Union County	\$ 206.50
T. S. Cooper Colored School (New), Gates County	4,952.25
Hildebran High School, Burke County	553.78
Spring Hope Gymnasium, Nash County	10,900.00
Hiwassee Dam High School, Cherokee County	1,200.00
Howards Creek School, Lincoln County	77.21
Murphy School Dressing Room, Murphy City	2,438.72
Whiteville High School, Whiteville City	47.00
Morven Cafeteria, Morven City	34.74
Maffitt Village Elementary School, New Hanover Co.	47,600.00
Fremont Elementary School, Fremont City	3,742.36
Franklin High School (New), Surry County	32.00
Spencer High School, Rowan County	16,238.66
Edward Best Gymnasium, Franklin County	7,200.00

Edward Best Agriculture Shop	430.00
Southwood Gymnasium, Lenoir County	3,185.75
Emma Gymnasium, Buncombe County	10,665.44
Chinquapin Colored School, Duplin County	7,300.00
1302 Market Street Building, New Hanover County ..	50.00
Friendship Colored School, Edgecombe County	43.75
Marshville Lunchroom & Cannery, Union County ..	400.00
Hamlet High School, Hamlet City	40.02
Dixon Agriculture Building, Onslow County	3,300.00
Franklinville Gymnasium, Randolph County	15,200.00
Courtney School, Yadkin County	23.97
T. S. Cooper Colored High School, Gates County	28,000.00
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Total Paid Fire & Lightning Losses	\$163,735.15
Estimated Outstanding Fire Losses	1,800.00
Total Paid Extended Coverage Losses	20,627.34
Total Losses for the year 1955-56	\$186,162.49

The Fire Chiefs' reports for 1955 showed 7 school fires. They were: St. Frances High School, Asheville, loss \$245.; Gastonia Colored School, loss \$750; Johnson Street School, High Point, loss \$78; Fairview School, High Point, loss \$56; Rich Square Creecy High School, loss \$80,000; Edenton School, loss \$50; Halifax County School, loss \$11,500. These 7 schools reported a total loss of \$92,679, which was not reflected in the list of school fires reported by Mr. Winborne. This gives the State Public Schools a total loss of \$278,741.49 for the year 1955-56. I am glad to report the total fire loss and extended coverage loss was \$302,585 less than 1954-55 in the schools of North Carolina.

Mr. Winborne further advises your statistician that there were no casualties or deaths among the school children of North Carolina, caused by fires in our public school buildings during the year 1955-56. No doubt the Fire Prevention programs carried out by the firemen, school officials, and teachers in every school of the state are responsible for this achievement, I am again thankful to the Supreme Being that in making my sixteen statistical reports there has not been a death of a school child or student by fire in our great state.

HOTEL, GUEST HOUSE, MOTEL, AND APARTMENT HOUSE FIRES: One hundred seventy-one fires in this group were reported for 1955, with a heavy increase in loss. Careless smokers accounted for 59 of these fires, gas and oil stoves 23, carelessness 17, undetermined 27, and several other causes contributed to the list. The damage as reported varied from \$10 to \$30,000 per fire, with apartment houses hardest hit. The total reported damage and loss added up to \$176,404 for the year 1955.

TABULATION OF FIRE DATA: For the first time since 1942

I have tabulated the Inventory Sheets the city clerks send to the Insurance Commissioner's office during October of each year, under oath and penalty of each fire department losing its insurance money if it does not comply with the law.

I find the comparison of the 1955 Inventory with my report of 1943 very interesting, and I thought you would enjoy seeing the terrific increase in man-power—volunteer and paid firemen—along with the increase in pumpers, total hose stock, and the increase in valuation of the equipment for the entire state. (There were 4 towns which failed to give the value of equipment).

Volunteer Firemen given on report	3441	6537
Paid Firemen given on reports	836	1579
Total Firemen given on reports	4277	7936
Aerial Trucks	12	5
Exclusive ladder trucks	33	11
Combination pumpers	300	584
Total GPM pumpers capacity	193,500	357,343
Total number feet of hose	609,950	1,083,384
Total value of equipment	\$3,618,218	\$9,247,263

As you can see the growth of the Fire Service has been phenomenal from 1942 to 1955. There has been a praiseworthy increase in the building of new fire stations all over North Carolina. I do not have these figures available to offer you.

AFFILIATED ASSOCIATIONS: The officers of the Sandhill Firemen's Association for 1956 are: P. C. Covington, President, Rockingham; Travis Wicker, Vice President, Southern Pines; and E. P. Leatherbury, Secretary-Treasurer, Hamlet. The Sandhill Firemen's Association held its first quarterly meeting September 1, 1955, with Star Fire Department as host. That meeting had 17 fire departments represented with 92 members present. John C. Wallace, President of the North Carolina State Firemen's Association was the main speaker. The association missed its December meeting. The third quarterly meeting was held in April with the Southern Pines Fire Department as host. Nineteen departments were represented with 112 firemen attending. The fourth and final meeting was the Sandhill convention held Jun 20, 1956, with Pembroke acting as host. There were 20 departments represented with approximately 300 firemen members present. The main speakers were: the State Fire Commissioner, Honorable Charles F. Gold and Honorable Alton R. Lennon, Congressman from the 7th district. The next meeting will be held in September with the Vass fire department as host.

WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION: I am pleased to incorporate in my statistician's report the report of Secretary Mark M. Jones, of the Western North Carolina Firemen's Association activities for 1955-56, which are as follows: The

Western North Carolina Firemen's Association has held four quarterly meetings during 1955-56. On September 28, 1955, the Association met at Morganton, with the Morganton Fire Department as host. The following officers were elected: President, Horace Elliott, Rutherfordton; 1st Vice President Georg Bartlett, Spruce Pine; 2nd Vice President Ed Hearn, Morganton; Secretary Mark M. Jones, Enka; Treasurer O. E. Brookhyser, Sylva. At this meeting past officers of the Association were presented lapel pins as mementos of their service to the Association. Chief Donald Charles, Charlotte, made the presentations. Pins were supplied by Mr. J. H. Bailey. Mr. Charles F. Gold, Insurance Commissioner for North Carolina was speaker for this meeting.

On December 14, 1955, the Association met at Enka, with the Enka Fire Department and the American Enka Corp. as hosts. At this meeting the disastrous Unagusta fire at Hazelwood, North Carolina, was discussed and it was reported that the Mutual Aid program, sponsored by the Western Association functioned smoothly. Congressman George H. Shuford was the speaker for the evening.

The Association again met at Enka, on March 14, 1956, for the March meeting. It was discussed and decided at this meeting, that at all future meetings the attending firemen would pay for their meals. The host department to make their charge on cost of meal. It was announced that a new print of the film "Using Water Wisely" had been secured for the film library.

The Association met on June 22, 1956, at Marion, with the American Thread Co. and Marion Fire Department as hosts. The speakers for this meeting were Chief Donald Charles, who spoke on Fire Prevention in the community, and Chief Mac Salley, who spoke on Fire Prevention in Industry.

During the year we have been honored by the attendance of the officers of the State Association. We have had some of them at each of our meetings, and at our September meeting the following were made honorary members of the Association: Chief Donald Charles, Chief Clarence Morris, Commissioner Charles F. Gold, and Chief Cosmo Cox.

During the year we held four meetings with an average attendance of 166, representing an average of 28 departments. Our membership increased from 789 in 1954-55 to 846 in 1955-56, although the number of member departments dropped from 37 in 1954-55 to 36 in 1955-56.

EASTERN CAROLINA FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION: The officers of the Association for 1956 elected at the Wilson meeting were: Chief Tyrus Bissett, Wilson, President; Assistant Chief Joe Haley, Kinston, Vice President; and Chief E. W. Kinsey, LaGrange, re-elected Secretary-Treasurer. The Eastern Carolina Firemen's Association is composed of 40 Eastern Carolina cities and towns

membership.

The fourth quarterly meeting for last year was held October 11, 1955 at Windsor with President Spivey presiding. The feature speaker was Mr. Charles F. Gold, Insurance Commissioner of North Carolina.

The first quarterly meeting was held in Wilson, January 10, 1956. The officers listed above were elected at this meeting. The city of Ahsokie was accepted into the Association. Mr. Charles F. Gold, Insurance Commissioner, and Curtis H. Flanagan, Secretary of the N. C. State Firemen's Association, were the speakers for the meeting.

The second quarterly meeting was held in Winterville on April 10 with the Winterville Fire Department acting as host. The following officers of the State Association attended this meeting: John C. Wallace, President; Horace C. Elliott, Vice President; Curtis H. Flanagan, Secretary; Ed A. Johnson, Treasurer; Albert W. Brinson, Statistician; Charles L. Miller, Advisory; and Cosmo L. Cox, Advisory. Mr. Charles F. Gold was the main speaker.

The third quarterly meeting was held on July 10, 1956 with the Aurora Fire Department being host. Mr. Charles F. Gold and Curtis H. Flanagan were again the feature speakers. The next meeting will be held in Ayden on October 9, 1956. All firemen are welcome.

NORTH CAROLINA STATE FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION FIRE COLLEGE AND DRILL SCHOOL: The 28th annual Fire College and Drill School was held in Charlotte at the Charlotte Fire Department Training School on May, 7, 8, 9, and 10, 1956. The Honorable Phil Van Every, Mayor, gave the welcome address and the response to the address of welcome was made by Chief Cosmo L. Cox of Durham. Chief Charles L. Burkett, Director-Conductor, conducted the most successful four day college ever held anywhere.

The School was very fortunate to have taking part in the lectures Chief William Fitzgerald, President International Association of Fire Chiefs, Seattle, Washington; Chief Wayne Swanson, Vice President, International, Rockford, Illinois; Chief Donald S. Charles, Second Vice President International, Charlotte, North Carolina. Other topics used were: Human Relations by Dr. George D. Heaton, Pastor Myers Park Methodist Church, Charlotte; Testing Ladders by Mr. Hugh Walker, Manager of the Sales Engineering American La France, El Mira, New York; Health and Fire Hazards by Mr. H. E. Whitmire, St. Louis, Missouri; National Fire Protection Association Fire Service Activities by Mr. Warren Y. Kimball, Manager National Fire Protection Association, Boston, Massachusetts; Modern Fire Equipment by Mr. H. M. Blank, Chief Engineer The Seagrave Corporation, Columbus, Ohio; and many other men of great importance in the fire field. You will see these listed in Conductors.

The total attendance of the school was 470 including 98 visitors, 22 people appearing on the program, 20 representatives of manufacturers, and 11 instructors.

President Fitzgerald announced at the school the appointment of Chief G. A. Mitchell, Opelika, Alabama, Secretary of Southeastern Fire Chiefs Association, to the Treasurer of the International Fire Chiefs' Association.

As your statistician I was sorry not to be in a position to attend the Fire College and Drill School. It was the first one I have missed in many, many years. From all I have talked with who attended, there was only praise for the finest school they had ever attended, and for the ones responsible for the excellent school.

NORTH CAROLINA STATE FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION PUMP SCHOOL: The fourth pump school was held at the Charlotte Fire Department Training School on October 17, 18, and 19, 1955. The school was conducted by the Director-Conductor, Chief Charles L. Burkett, and Assistant Director, Chief E. M. Salley, Enka, North Carolina. The attendance was 155 with the registration up 19 from 1954. Credits were issued to 57 first year men, 21 second year, and 55 third year men. There were registered 22 visitors (observers and representatives of manufacturers). Your statistician has heard many in attendance to our schools say, "Believe me you, I learned more about fire pumps than I had ever dreamed of."

SHERMAN PICKARD DEPUTY FIRE MARSHAL: Honorable Charles F. Gold, Commissioner of Insurance appointed Sherman Pickard, former member of the Burlington Fire Department, as Deputy Fire Marshal of the Insurance Department in 1955. Mr. Pickard comes to the department well qualified with firematic knowledge and experience from the fire service. We welcome Sherman to the department and to the local level of firemen's training. Sherman Pickard assisted with conducting the Plymouth Firemen's Training School at Plymouth, April 2-6, 1956. He conducted a fire school at Mount Olive, May 14-16, 1956, under the sponsorship of the North Carolina Insurance Department. Classes were held each night from 7:30 until 10 p.m. The four towns that were represented were Mount Olive, which was host, Calypso, Faison, and Warsaw. In their program fires were fought in four different ways. Foam, low pressure fog on line, low velocity fog, using applicators, and dry chemical extinguishers 20 and 30 pound size. He conducted a similar training course at Gibsonville November 1-6, 1955, of 60 hours with 17 firemen participating. Also on February 26 through March 3 a similar program of training was conducted by Mr. Pickard with 40 hours and 26 firemen participating. Mr. Pickard advises me that he has training schools planned for October and November at Mount Olive, Roseboro, Locust and Buies Creek Fire Departments. He states he will be happy to make plans to work with your fire department on the

training program, at the local level, upon your request.

PLYMOUTH FIRE SCHOOL: Chief I. Miller Warren and his firemen held another Fire School the first week in April. There were 14 men reporting for the first year course. Sherman Pickard, Deputy Fire Marshal directed the first year course. Captain Otis Dowdy, Drill and Personnel Director of the Charlotte Fire Department directed the 47 men reporting for the second year work. There were six towns and one rural fire department represented and took part in the courses. They are making plans to continue the courses next year. Miller reports his city is enjoying the lowest fire loss in many years.

NORTH CAROLINA ASSOCIATION OF FIRE CHIEFS: The officers elected to the Fire Chiefs' Association at the annual meeting of the Association held in New Bern were: Clarence E. Morris, President, Albemarle; Jack B. Keeter, Vice President, Raleigh; J. A. West, Secretary, Wilmington; Ralph E. Marbry, Treasurer, Badin. The following Vice Presidents for the districts are: No. 1. T. R. Bissett, Wilson; No. 2 R. B. Heater, Cary; No. 3 H. B. Fowler, Southern Pines; No. 4 Ed Brannock, Mount Airy; and No. 5 Gladson Hayne, Canton. The membership for 1955 was 163 regular members, which was a gain of 13 cities and towns over the year 1954.

The address of welcome was given by Chief Albert Stocks. Response to address of welcome was made by Ed A. Johnson, Treasurer, N. C. State Firemen's Association. President I. Miller Warren presided over the meeting. Mr. Kenneth Scott of the North Carolina Rating Bureau gave words of greeting to all the chiefs from the Bureau. Mr. L. E. Shingledeck of Columbus, Ohio made a few remarks on his pleasure at attending the meeting. President gave his report and added he had traveled about 3,500 miles during the year.

He also praised the work of the Secretary and Treasurer. Chief Canady urged all chiefs and assistant chiefs to mail their dues in promptly. Chief Burkett reminded the chiefs of the state that the North Carolina Fire College and Pump School was for the training of their firemen. All the officers of the Chiefs' Association attended the Fire College in Charlotte in May 1956.

SOUTHEASTERN ASSOCIATION OF FIRE CHIEFS WITH C. W. "MOON" WYRICK HONORED: The Southern Association of Fire Chiefs covers ten Southeastern states, and their last meeting was held in the city of Lexington, Kentucky, which was a very successful meeting. The host chief was Mr. Earl McDaniels, who at that time was the President of the Southeastern. At that meeting Mr. Troy O. Richardson of Oak Ridge, Tennessee, was elevated to President. Our Mr. C. W. "Moon" Wyrick was elevated to first Vice President, Mr. Bernard J. Padgett, Chief of fire department, Alexandria, Virginia, was elected second Vice President, Mr. G. A. Mitchell, Chief of Opelika, Alabama was re-elected Sec-

retary-Treasurer, Mr. Earl R. McDaniel was elected Director to the International Association of Fire Chiefs. They voted to hold their next meeting in Miami, Florida on November 11, 1956, just prior to the opening of the International Association of Fire Chiefs meeting in Miami. Due to the death of Daniel Tierney, who was Treasurer of the International for a long number of years, the Southeastern was honored by the appointment of G. A. "Squirrel" Mitchell as Treasurer of International. One other outstanding thing that the Southeastern did was the endorsement and the backing and support of our own Chief Donald S. Charles, who was unanimously elected second Vice President of the International, which has meant a great honor not only to the Southeastern but to the state of North Carolina and to the city of Charlotte. Moon writes "We are all supporting Donald again at this coming conference to become first Vice President of the International Association of Fire Chiefs." Moon urges that all chiefs in our state, if not members, to become members and to attend these conferences. It will mean much to each one of them and if it is the willingness of the members he will be elevated to the Presidency of the Southeastern in November. I also urge every chief, not a member of the Southeastern to become a member and go to Miami and help elect Moon to the Presidency.

CHARLOTTE FIRE DEPARTMENT: Chief Donald S. Charles and his 236 firemen entertained royally, as usual, the third annual North Carolina Firemen's Association Pump School on October 17, 18, 19, 1955, with a registration of 155, and on May 7, 8, 9, 10 1956 were host to the 28th annual Fire College with a total attendance of 470. The College was the largest and best college of the 28 held and sponsored by the North Carolina State Firemen's Association. I wish to say that every fireman and citizen of North Carolina should be happy, proud, and indebted to Chief Charles, his firemen, and to the city of Charlotte for going all the way out in acting host to our College and Pump School, along with placing their department and training facilities at our disposal for free. Thanks Donald and your firemen and city officials. The record of Charlotte speaks for itself and I quote an article entitled "Fire Control Rating High In Charlotte" reprinted from The Charlotte Observer, Thursday, April 28, 1956:

"New York—On the basis of its fire control showing during the past year, Charlotte's fire department turned in a more efficient performance than did most cities in the United States.

"This is shown in connection with reports from some 650 municipal fire departments in the United States and Canada, gathered by the National Fire Protection Association. The cities covered were of 20,000 population or over.

"The local fire fighters showed up well in the figures with their success in bringing conflagrations under control quickly and

thus holding damage to a minimum.

"Charlotte's fire loss for the year, the result of 773 building fires, came to \$614,868. Per fire it amounted to \$794, which compares favorably with the record of the other American cities, \$931 per fire.

"Automobile fires posed a problem for the nation's fire fighters. This situation has assumed larger proportions than before because of the increase in car usage. Now, about one-fifth of all fires are auto fires. In Charlotte there were 152 during the year.

"In nearly all cities, fire departments were also plagued by intentional false alarms. Such alarms, which are apart from those turned in error, comprised 1-14th of the total calls. There were 350 in Charlotte."

GREENSBORO FIRE DEPARTMENT ANNUAL TRAINING: Chief Wyrick as usual continued the annual Advanced Training course for the officers and firemen of the Greensboro Fire Department in 1955. First on his program began with a First Aid Refresher course by the personnel and a complete standard and advanced course for men hired during the year. Two members of the department received American Red Cross citations for more than 300 hours of First Aid Teaching. A course for officers "Fire-fighting Tactics" was the second training course. This was a two week course and involved 22 officers. A 30 hour course with 20 operators went through a pump school for first and second drivers was the third course. Testing of hose was the next operation. Two 30-hour classes for auxiliary Civil Defense Firemen were conducted to bring up a total of 60 men in the unit. Members of the department traveled to various parts of the United States to increase their firemanic knowledge. Three members attended the Instructors' Conference in Memphis, Tennessee; 1 attended the Arson School at Gainesville, Florida; 2 attended the Fire Prevention School at the Maryland University; 1 served as member of the staff of the Arson School at Chapel Hill; 2 members served on the staff of the North Carolina Fire College and Pump School; 2 members served on the committee for the edition of "Pre-Planning Fire Attack" and 1 of a group of training manuals being published by Oklahoma A and M College. Their new training facilities are being finished for the first training of the 18 new recruits added to the department to begin the new 72 work week. The Fire Prevention Bureau had a busy year in prevention of fires and with a result they had their lowest fire loss on record, considering present day valuation and increase in buildings and population. Their loss was \$147,967.99, or a per capita loss of \$1.66. They had 6,350 inspections and re-inspections for the year. Three of their members of the Bureau have had arson training at the University of Purdue, Chapel Hill, and the University of Florida, which was a great asset in the 432 investigations they made of fires dur-

ing the year. The Bureau distributed 56,000 pieces of literature to school children, civic clubs, and stores; showed fire prevention films to 7,850 persons, and issued and checked 416 permits to burn. Moon, we say keep up the good work you and your men are doing.

DURHAM FIRE DEPARTMENT: Chief Cosmo Cox of the Durham Fire Department advises me that the city has completed a nice, large, new fire station to replace the old No. 3 station. This building has 5,600 square feet of floor space and was built to accommodate three active companies in the future. At the present two active companies are operating and he says they keep one reserve pumper in the building. Durham purchased a new 750 gallon per minute pumping engine in March and placed it in headquarters station.

Cosmo states that his department "answered 997 calls in 1955, 818 in the city, and 179 in the county. The total value of property in the city involved by fire was \$1,141,190. Total loss was \$217,679." He says his training program during both the summer and winter seasons has been continued vigorously. Inspections have been regular. "On June 10, this year was the third year we have continued a six-day radio program. This program is designed to report on all fire activities, also give helpful safety suggestions and preventive measures. During last Fire Prevention Week we had a thirty-minute live TV program from which we received many nice compliments," stated Chief Cox.

WINSTON-SALEM FIRE DEPARTMENT'S TRAINING AND ACTIVITIES: Chief E. M. Dixon of the Winston-Salem Fire Department furnished me with their 1955 annual report covering expansion program, training activities, etc., for 1955. They report 1222 alarms for the year with 816 fires, 95 rescue and emergency calls, and 246 smoke scares, non-malicious false alarms, etc. Their total fire loss for the year was \$447,621 with total value of \$6,679,245 in buildings and value of contents. Their fire loss per capita was \$4.97. Their Fire Prevention Bureau reported his men made 6,639 inspections, found 830 violations, and corrected 251. Their Fire Prevention Education consisted of distribution of 23,000 pieces of literature, 38 newspaper articles, 12 radio programs, 4 television programs, 2 on safety, 3 campaigns, 1 display, and 19 talks and movies. Ten of their firemen attended the North Carolina Fire College and Drill School for 1955, 5 of the men received diplomas. Two of their men attended the Fire Department Instruction Conference at Memphis, Tennessee; 1 attended the Arson School at Chapel Hill, with 62 attending a one-day school "Investigation of Arson and Other Unlawful Burnings," and 4 attended a "Crash Fire Fighting and Rescue School" conducted at Pope Air Field. Chief Dixon and his officers are continuing to do a bang-up job with the program which retired Chief Brown started several years ago on educating his firemen and fire protection. I am happy to

make mention of their achievement in the fire service.

FORSYTH COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT: Forsyth County Fire Marshal, E. R. Baugess, reports "During the year 1955 our 27 pieces of equipment made a total of 656 calls, valuation involved \$6,500,000, with a fire loss of only \$119,000 and with no loss of life in our rural area. We are complete with a training program, inspection program, traffic department, and certainly the finest equipment that money can buy. Last year we sent 26 delegates to the state convention. All of our first trucks are equipped with two-way radio, scott-air packs and fully equipped, some with portable pumps and portable light plants.

Below are the departments of the Forsyth County Fire Department: City View, Clemmons, Beeson's Cross Roads, Griffith, Forest Hills, Lewisville, Mineral Springs, Mount Tabor, Triangle, Talley's Crossing, South Fork, Suburban, Vienna, Walkertown, and Old Richmond.

FIRST CARTERET COUNTY-WIDE FIRE SCHOOL: The following was reprinted in The Hoze & Nozzle, November 1955 edition:

"47 Carteret County Firemen Complete First County-Wide Fire School. Cards, wallet size, to denote graduation from Carteret's first county-wide fire school were presented Friday night, September 23 to firemen at a dinner at the Sanitary Restaurant, Morehead City.

Presenting the cards was Captain Otis Dowdy of the Charlotte Fire Department, who conducted the training sessions Tuesday through Thursday of that week.

Vernon Guthrie, Chief of the Morehead City Fire Department, acted as master of ceremonies. J. C. Robertson, Charlotte, introduced Lloyd Layman, Battle Creek, Mich., who spoke on "Indirect Method" of fire fighting.

Guest speakers at the meeting were Curtis Flanagan, Farmville, Secretary of the State Firemen's Association; Cecil Lilly, Farmville; Moses Howard, chairman of the county Board of Commissioners; Wilbur Garner, Newport Fire Commissioner; Chief Charles Harrell, Beaufort; Chief B. T. Smith, Jr., Newport; Gerald Wooldard, Beaufort, secretary of the fire school; and Leon Mann, Jr., mayor of Newport.

J. Ludie Croom, former chief of the Wilmington Fire Department, showed slides on the devastating Wilmington port fire of 1953. Chief Croom was head of the Wilmington Fire Department for 47 years.

The color slides were shots of the fire in which a warehouse containing nitric soda and a sugar warehouse were destroyed. Total loss was \$11,800,000, the most costly fire ever to occur in the state, Chief Croom said.

In closing my report as your statistician, I would like to stress the importance of every fire chief and assistant fire chief becoming

a member of the Southeastern and International Fire Chiefs' Association. You will receive free monthly, more valuable information on how best to fight every type of fire that is known, than you ever dreamed could be available. Also I wish to especially call to your attention the Governor's proposed statewide Fire Prevention Conference which is to be arranged for this early fall. Every fireman in North Carolina, and Mr. Curtis H. Flanagan, our secretary, tells me there are 9,410, should take part in this Fire Prevention program.

I wish to take this opportunity to express my appreciation to the Honorable Charles F. Gold, Insurance Commissioner, Mr. Sherman Pickard, Deputy Fire Marshal, and the many other people who have assisted me by providing material for my 1956 report.

I wish to say before closing this report, President Wallace and Fellow Firemen, that it has been indeed a great privilege and pleasure to have served our Association in the capacity of member of your Advisory Committee for three years, and as your statistician for 16 years to the best of my ability. To Chief Keeter and his officers and firemen, I say that I am happy to have the privilege to enjoy your hospitality in the friendly capital city.

Respectfully submitted,

ALBERT W. BRINSON, Statistician

NORTH CAROLINA STATE FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Office of Statistician

New Bern, North Carolina

August 30, 1956

Mr. Curtis H. Flanagan, Secretary
North Carolina State Firemen's Association
Farmville, North Carolina

Dear Curtis:

Attached is my Statistician's report, I am attaching a sheet covering the Forsyth County Fire Department.

I received this late, is the reason I was unable to inject into my report. Will appreciate you adding to my report on page 28, following the Winston-Salem Fire Department article that starts on page 27. I have marked on page the place it is to follow.

By the way, I still have not received my salary check.

Sincerely yours,

ALBERT W. BRINSON, Statistician

Motion by Harry Green that the Statistician's report be adopted in its entirety and a copy be sent to each Fire Department in North Carolina. The motion was seconded and duly carried.

REPORT ON AUDIT OF FINANCIAL RECORDS For the Year ending June 30, 1956

To the Members of the North Carolina State Firemen's Association and the Fraternal Insurance Fund of the North Carolina State Firemen's Association.

Dear Sirs:

I have examined the financial records of the North Carolina State Firemen's Association and the Fraternal Insurance Fund of the North Carolina State Firemen's Association for the year ending June 30, 1956 and submit the following exhibits and comments relative thereto:

EXHIBIT:

- A—North Carolina State Firemen's Association, Statement of Assets, June 30, 1956.
- B—The Firemen's Fraternal Insurance Fund of the North Carolina State Firemen's Association, Statement of Assets, June 30, 1956.
- C—North Carolina State Firemen's Association, Statement of Cash Receipts and Disbursements for the Year ending June 30, 1956.
- D—The Firemen's Fraternal Insurance Fund of the North Carolina State Firemen's Association, Statement of Cash Receipts and Disbursements for the Year ending June 30, 1956.
- E—North Carolina State Firemen's Association and The Firemen's Fraternal Insurance Fund, Statement of Secretary's Cash Receipts and Remittances to the Treasurer for the Year ending June 30, 1956.

All receipts recorded by the Secretary were remitted by check to the Treasurer, who recorded the remittances received and deposited same in the proper bank account. All disbursements were made by properly approved vouchers. The dual records maintained by the Secretary and the Treasurer were reconciled at June 30, 1956, and the differences have been pointed out for the necessary adjustments to be made.

Cash balances and investments held for all funds at June 30, 1956 were verified by direct confirmation from the depositories and the investment management agency, Wachovia Bank and Trust Company, High Point, N. C. Details regarding cash balances and investments held at June 30, 1956 are shown in Exhibits A and B and changes or transactions during the year under examination are set forth in Exhibits C and D.

A comparative statement of assets as of June 30, 1956 and 1955, by funds, is shown below: