

REPORT OF FIRE DEPARTMENT.

To the Honorable Mayor and Board of
Aldermen of the City of Raleigh.

In submitting this, our annual report of the Fire Department of the City, your committee desires to express their appreciation of the services of our most efficient chief, Mr. L. A. Mahler, and the entire department. They have at all times most cheerfully and promptly responded to duty. The department is on most excellent footing, and the services were never more efficient. This committee has seen that all regulations in the fire district have been carried out, and all new buildings have been constructed in accordance with fire ordinances. Chief Mahler's report so fully covers this department that an extended report from the committee is unnecessary. In conclusion we wish to thank the Mayor and Board for their interest in, and support of the department.

Respectfully submitted,

A. M. POWELL,
J. D. BOUSHALL,
J. E. POTTER.

REPORT OF CHIEF OF FIRE DEPARTMENT.

RALEIGH, N. C., March 1, 1898.

To the Honorable the Mayor and Board of Aldermen:

GENTLEMEN:—In compliance with the city ordinances I herewith submit my annual report, containing an itemized statement of the expenditures of the department for the fiscal year ending February 28, 1898; also statement of fires and alarms and other matters pertaining to the department.

ORGANIZATION.

COMMITTEE ON FIRE DEPARTMENT.

A. M. POWELL, *Chairman.* J. D. BOUSHALL.
MAYOR W. M. RUSS. J. E. POTTER.

CHIEF FIRE DEPARTMENT:

L. A. MAHLER.

ASSISTANT CHIEF:

WALTER WOOLLCOTT.

COMPANIES AND OFFICERS:

HOOK AND LADDER COMPANY, No. 1.

W. W. PARRISH, *Foreman.* A. M. SMITH, *Ass't Foreman.*
F. C. DOYLE, *Secretary.*

P. H. Broughton.	J. P. Medlin.
C. F. Bullock.	Bud Pool.
A. J. Crawford.	C. P. Snuggs.
J. N. Harrell.	N. A. Spence.
C. D. Heartt.	R. G. Upchurch.
J. W. Mangum.	W. T. Utley.
W. R. Macy.	L. C. Weathers.

Total 17.

RESCUE COMPANY, No. 1.

R. E. LUMSDEN, *Foreman.*W. O. MOYE, *Ass't Foreman.*W. A. FAUCETT, *Secretary.*

C. J. Betts.	H. W. Miller.
T. W. Blake.	W. F. McDowell.
W. Z. Blake.	J. N. McRary.
O. W. Belvin.	S. P. Pennington.
Frank Brinig.	P. N. Pennington.
Joe Creighton.	C. B. Park.
T. O. Faucett.	J. S. Riddle.
W. N. Fowler.	W. O. Scott.
W. R. Kennette.	J. F. Straughan.
T. P. Lumsden.	Hal. Weatherspoon.
E. A. Lassater.	W. J. Weir.
R. D. Little.	C. W. White.
Sam Lumley.	

Total 28.

CAPITAL HOSE COMPANY, No. 3.

JOHN R. FERRALL, *Foreman.*E. B. BAIN, *Ass't Foreman.*ALEX. KRETH, *Secretary.*

C. D. Arthur.	A. M. McPheters Jr.
W. J. Andrews.	H. W. Miller.
C. H. Betts.	T. W. Mahler.
H. D. Bunch.	R. C. Pool.
J. W. Cross.	B. A. Parker.
H. S. Carver.	H. F. Smith.
A. C. Hinton.	J. D. Turner.
T. B. Heartt.	Fred Woolcott.
J. F. Jordan.	L. H. Lumsden.
W. A. Linchan.	Charles Cardwell.
E. H. Lee.	

Total 25.

VICTOR HOSE COMPANY, No. 2.

JOHN HARDIE, *Foreman.*WM. H. PALMER, *Ass't Foreman.*S. J. HAWKINS, *Secretary.*

J. J. Alston.	Frank Kelleled.
John Baker.	S. P. Mallett.
Eugene Chavis.	Joe Penny.
Hayes Drake.	Jas. T. Palmer.
Sylvester Dunston.	Charles Rix.
Mac Freeman.	S. G. Smith.
Wm. Haywood.	Van Tucker.
C. M. Hunter.	R. S. Taylor.
Primus Haywood.	Charlie Winters.
Jas. H. Jones.	Hilliard Williams.
S. B. Jeffries.	R. W. Watson.
Junius Kelly.	Haywood Perdue.

Total 27.

Making the membership in the department ninety-nine, of which eleven are paid and part paid.

STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURES.

Detailed Expenses Fire Department:

Feed	\$ 671 42
Building	18 66
Harness repairs	7 80
Oil	4 75
Coal	21 50
Repairs on apparatus	6 50
Repairs on steamer	16 60
Matches	1 20
Medicine for horses	4 10
Renting Warehouse	7 00
Lamp wicks	20
Lights	31 11
Smithwork	61 20
Stationery	1 50
Brooms	1 50
Harness dressing	3 50
Shovel	85
Emery cloth	55
Treating horses	26 75
Oil can	1 25
Express	1 00
Duster	50
Axe handle	10
Screws	95
Scissors	25
Lantern globes	12 90
Freight on same	1 22
Trace chain	35
Buckets and dipper	1 55
Expansion rings	4 00
Hose washers	1 50
Key	25
Light material	76
Door spring	25
Repairing lantern	15
Glass	10
Dues State Firemen's Association	43 00
Axle oil	2 00
Sponges	1 85
Nails	83
Chamois skin	1 00
Salt	90
Soap	45
Repairing boots	1 50
Lamps	10
Amount forwarded	\$ 972 30

STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURES—Continued.

Brought forward		\$	972 30
Detailed Expenses Fire Alarm:			
Charging batteries	36 00		
Sal-ammoniac	4 75		
Foot adze	1 25		
Paint for fire alarm boxes	1 50		
Battery supplies	16 94		
Repairing volt-meter	7 00		
Ground plate	35		
Sulphuric acid	3 00		
Sundries	35		
6 32 C. P. Lumps	3 00		
Fire alarm box backs	1 50		
Poll braces	1 25		
Lag screws, etc	6 48		
			83 37
Permanent Improvements Fire Department:			
Lot corner Hargett and Blount streets	800 00		
Hose wagon Victor Company	440 00		
Building	1,424 00		
Plumbing	48 00		
Trip	15 00		
Harness	25 00		
Harness layers	4 00		
Window and stall guards	19 28		
Sliding Pole	25 50		
Door fenders	3 50		
Feed cut-off	4 00		
Door bolt and springs	9 50		
Landing pad	12 00		
Broom holder	90		
Rein snaps	4 00		
Collar and hames	20 40		
Hose	5 00		
Nails, etc	4 45		
Tape, wire, etc	26 75		
Two dozen hose hooks	6 00		
Repairs on Rescue roof	31 08		
Repairs on building	3 40		
Handles on nuzzles	1 00		
Screws, etc	2 10		
			2 935 26
Amount forwarded		\$	3,990 93

STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURES—Continued.

Brought forward		\$	3,990 93
Permanent Improvements Fire Alarm:			
Poles	52 65		
Fire Alarm box	128 00		
Half mile of wire	22 50		
Freight on same	3 54		
Work on Switchboard	37 50		
Repairing Victor Gong	31 50		
Cross-arms	6 05		
Freight on Zincs	1 02		
Bell	2 65		
Hydrometer	1 50		
			287 01
Total		\$	4,277 94

RECAPITULATION.

Total Fire Alarm and Department Expenses	\$	4,321 27
Total Fire Alarm and Department Permanent Improvements		3,222 27
	\$	7,543 54

EXPENDITURES.

Chief Fire Department	\$	350 00
Assistant Chief		50 00
Engineer Rescue Steamer		100 00
Lineman		455 00
Drivers and helpers		1,692 99
Night men		200 00
Line work, labor, etc		417 61
Fire Department expenses		972 30
Fire Alarm expenses		83 37
Fire Department—permanent improvements		2,935 26
Fire Alarm—permanent improvements		287 01
	\$	7,543 54

EQUIPMENT.

The equipment of the department consists of three two-horse hose wagons, each carrying one thousand feet of rubber-lined cotton hose, one hook and ladder truck and eight horses in service; one Gould steamer, and eight hundred feet of hose in reserve.

THE WATER SUPPLY.

The water supply is from one hundred and twenty-four public and fifteen private double muzzle $2\frac{1}{2}$ inch Matthews fire hydrants. The water pressure has always been ample, varying from fifty to seventy-five pounds tower pressure, according to location, and with direct pressure from eighty five to one hundred and fifteen pounds.

FIRE ALARM.

The equipment of the fire alarm consists of twenty-eight Gamewell street boxes, one bell striker, three gongs in engine houses, one gong in pumping station, which has been put in during the past year, one four circuit repeater, storage battery complete with switch board, galvanometers, etc.; twenty miles of insulated copper wire, and nine miles of bare iron wire.

FIRE RECORDS.

Attached is table of fire records for the past year.

During the year there was fifty alarms, an increase of twelve over the preceding year.

The fire losses were \$12,889, insurance paid \$2,747; making net loss of \$10,142.

The largest loss was on October 21, when the brick building and stock of Mr. Yancy was entirely destroyed, loss \$9,000, deducting makes the net loss for the year \$1,142.

PROPERTY VALUATION OF THE DEPARTMENT.

Womble Hook and Ladder Company.....	\$ 4,000 00
Rescue Company.....	2,000 00
Capital Company.....	2,000 00
Victor Company.....	2,000 00
1 Second-hand Gould Steamer.....	4,000 00
1 Double Tank Chemical.....	400 00
Building and Lot Morgan St.....	5,500 00
Building and Lot Blount St.....	2,900 00
800 feet extra hose.....	400 00
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	\$ 23,200 00
Value Fire Alarm System.....	7,000 00
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	\$ 30,000 00

During the past year the department suffered the loss by fire of a pair of horses and reel of the Victor Company, by explosion of lamp on the reel. The city has bought a lot on Blount street, on which has just been completed a model building for the Victor Company, which has also been fully equipped with new wagon, horses, etc.

The roof on building on Morgan street, through faulty construction, had become unsafe necessitating a thorough overhauling of the building which has just been completed.

The building of the Rescue Company is in need of some necessary repairs and alterations which I trust you may see fit to authorize.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

I. A. MAHLER,
Chief Fire Department.